

GOAL! WEEKLY

Season 2: Issue 1
Monday 30 January 06: \$3

Supporting all colours and reporting in black and white.



**A-League
News and
Views**

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World Cup
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VPL Team
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WE'RE BACK !



Plus ► World Football ► Krncevics' Krunchtime ► Boo's World ► and Much Much More....

2006 FIXTURES

Round 1

3 Feb 06 615/815PM	Kingston	v	SGX	The Grange Reserve
3 Feb 06 615/815PM	Essendon	v	Richmond	Veneto Social Club
5 Feb 06 300/500PM	Heidelberg	v	SMFC	Olympic Village
5 Feb 06 400/600PM	Gully	v	Oakleigh	Gully Gully Reserve
5 Feb 06 400/600PM	Frankston	v	Bulleen	Monterey Reserve
5 Feb 06 400/600PM	Preston	v	Knights	BT Connor Reserve
6 Feb 06 615/815PM	Fawkner	v	Altona	Epping Stadium

Round 2

10 Feb 06 615/815PM	Oakleigh	v	Heidelberg	Jack Edwards Reserve
10 Feb 06 630/830PM	Richmond	v	Frankston	Kevin Bartlett Reserve
11 Feb 06 530/730PM	Altona	v	Kingston	Paisley Park Reserve
12 Feb 06 400/600PM	Knights	v	Essendon	Knights Stadium
12 Feb 06 400/600PM	SGX	v	Preston	Chaplin Reserve
12 Feb 06 400/615PM	SMFC	v	Fawkner	Bob Jane Stadium
13 Feb 06 615/815PM	Bulleen	v	Gully	Veneto Social Club

Round 3

17 Feb 06 615/815PM	Kingston	v	SMFC	The Grange Reserve
17 Feb 06 615/815PM	Essendon	v	SGX	Veneto Social Club
18 Feb 06 530/730PM	Altona	v	Preston	Paisley Park Reserve
19 Feb 06 400/600PM	Gully	v	Frankston	Gully Reserve
19 Feb 06 400/600PM	Heidelberg	v	Bulleen	Olympic Village
19 Feb 06 400/600PM	Knights	v	Richmond	Knights Stadium
20 Feb 06 615/815PM	Fawkner	v	Oakleigh	Epping Stadium

Round 4

24 Feb 06 615/815PM	Oakleigh	v	Kingston	Jack Edwards Reserve
24 Feb 06 630/830PM	Richmond	v	Gully	Kevin Bartlett Reserve
25 Feb 06 400/600PM	Frankston	v	Heidelberg	Monterey Reserve
25 Feb 06 530/730PM	Altona	v	Essendon	Paisley Park Reserve
26 Feb 06 245/500PM	SMFC	v	Preston	Bob Jane Stadium
26 Feb 06 400/600PM	SGX	v	Knights	Chaplin Reserve
27 Feb 06 615/815PM	Bulleen	v	Fawkner	Veneto Social Club

Round 5

10 Mar 06 615/815PM	Kingston	v	Bulleen	The Grange Reserve
10 Mar 06 615/815PM	Essendon	v	SMFC	Veneto Social Club
11 Mar 06 300/500PM	Preston	v	Oakleigh	BT Connor Reserve
12 Mar 06 300/500PM	Fawkner	v	Frankston	CB Smith Reserve
12 Mar 06 300/500PM	Knights	v	Altona	Knights Stadium
12 Mar 06 400/600PM	Heidelberg	v	Gully	Olympic Village
12 Mar 06 300/500PM	SGX	v	Richmond	Diamond Park

Round 6

17 Mar 06 615/815PM	Oakleigh	v	Essendon	Jack Edwards Reserve
17 Mar 06 630/830PM	Richmond	v	Heidelberg	Kevin Bartlett Reserve
18 Mar 06 300/500PM	Frankston	v	Kingston	Monterey Reserve
18 Mar 06 530/730PM	Altona	v	SGX	Paisley Park Reserve
19 Mar 06 400/600PM	Gully	v	Fawkner	Gully Reserve
20 Mar 06 615/815PM	Bulleen	v	Preston	Veneto Social Club
17 Apr 06 1245/300PM	SMFC	v	Knights	Bob Jane Stadium

Round 7

24 Mar 06 615/815PM	Kingston	v	Gully	The Grange Reserve
24 Mar 06 615/815PM	Essendon	v	Bulleen	Veneto Social Club
24 Mar 06 630/830PM	Richmond	v	Altona	Kevin Bartlett Reserve
26 Mar 06 300/500PM	Preston	v	Frankston	BT Connor Reserve
26 Mar 06 300/500PM	Knights	v	Oakleigh	Knights Stadium
26 Mar 06 300/500PM	SGX	v	SMFC	Chaplin Reserve
27 Mar 06 615/815PM	Fawkner	v	Heidelberg	Epping Stadium

Round 8

31 Mar 06 615/815PM	Oakleigh	v	SGX	Jack Edwards Reserve
31 Mar 06 630/830PM	Richmond	v	Fawkner	Kevin Bartlett Reserve
1 Apr 06 100/300PM	Frankston	v	Essendon	Monterey Reserve
1 Apr 06 530/730PM	Altona	v	SMFC	Paisley Park Reserve
2 Apr 06 300/500PM	Gully	v	Preston	Gully Reserve
2 Apr 06 400/600PM	Heidelberg	v	Kingston	Olympic Village
3 Apr 06 615/815PM	Bulleen	v	Knights	Veneto Social Club

Round 9

7 Apr 06 615/815PM	Kingston	v	Fawkner	The Grange Reserve
7 Apr 06 615/815PM	Essendon	v	Gully	Veneto Social Club
8 Apr 06 530/730PM	Altona	v	Oakleigh	Paisley Park Reserve
9 Apr 06 100/300PM	Preston	v	Heidelberg	BT Connor Reserve
9 Apr 06 100/300PM	Knights	v	Frankston	Knights Stadium
9 Apr 06 100/300PM	SGX	v	Bulleen	Chaplin Reserve
9 Apr 06 1245/300PM	SMFC	v	Richmond	Bob Jane Stadium

Round 10

21 Apr 06 615/815PM	Fawkner	v	Preston	Epping Stadium
21 Apr 06 630/830PM	Richmond	v	Kingston	Kevin Bartlett Reserve
22 Apr 06 100/300PM	Frankston	v	SGX	Monterey Reserve
23 Apr 06 300/500PM	Gully	v	Knights	Gully Reserve
24 Apr 06 615/815PM	Oakleigh	v	SMFC	Jack Edwards Reserve
24 Apr 06 615/815PM	Bulleen	v	Altona	Veneto Social Club
24 Apr 06 615/815PM	Heidelberg	v	Essendon	Olympic Village

Round 11

28 Apr 06 615/815PM	Essendon	v	Fawkner	Veneto Social Club
28 Apr 06 615/815PM	Oakleigh	v	Richmond	Jack Edwards Reserve
29 Apr 06 530/730PM	Altona	v	Frankston	Paisley Park Reserve
30 Apr 06 100/300PM	Preston	v	Kingston	BT Connor Reserve
30 Apr 06 100/300PM	Knights	v	Heidelberg	Knights Stadium
30 Apr 06 100/300PM	SGX	v	Gully	Chaplin Reserve
30 Apr 06 1245/300PM	SMFC	v	Bulleen	Bob Jane Stadium

Round 12

5 May 06 615/815PM	Kingston	v	Essendon	The Grange Reserve
5 May 06 630/830PM	Richmond	v	Preston	Kevin Bartlett Reserve
6 May 06 100/300PM	Frankston	v	SMFC	Monterey Reserve
7 May 06 300/500PM	Gully	v	Altona	Gully Reserve
7 May 06 400/600PM	Heidelberg	v	SGX	Olympic Village
8 May 06 615/815PM	Bulleen	v	Oakleigh	Veneto Social Club
8 May 06 615/815PM	Fawkner	v	Knights	Epping Stadium

Round 13

12 May 06 615/815PM	Essendon	v	Preston	Veneto Social Club
12 May 06 615/815PM	Oakleigh	v	Frankston	Jack Edwards Reserve
13 May 06 530/730PM	Altona	v	Heidelberg	Paisley Park Reserve
14 May 06 100/300PM	Knights	v	Kingston	Knights Stadium
14 May 06 100/300PM	SGX	v	Fawkner	Chaplin Reserve
14 May 06 1245/300PM	SMFC	v	Gully	Bob Jane Stadium
15 May 06 615/815PM	Bulleen	v	Richmond	Veneto Social Club

Round 14

19 May 06 615/815PM	Oakleigh	v	Gully	Jack Edwards Reserve
19 May 06 630/830PM	Richmond	v	Essendon	Kevin Bartlett Reserve
20 May 06 530/730PM	Altona	v	Fawkner	Paisley Park Reserve
21 May 06 1245/300PM	SMFC	v	Heidelberg	Bob Jane Stadium
21 May 06 100/300PM	SGX	v	Kingston	Chaplin Reserve
21 May 06 100/300PM	Knights	v	Preston	Knights Stadium
22 May 06 630/830PM	Bulleen	v	Frankston	Veneto Social Club

Round 15

26 May 06 615/815PM	Essendon	v	Knights	Veneto Social Club
26 May 06 615/815PM	Kingston	v	Altona	The Grange Reserve
27 May 06 100/300PM	Frankston	v	Richmond	Monterey Reserve
28 May 06 100/300PM	Preston	v	SGX	BT Connor Reserve
28 May 06 300/500PM	Gully	v	Bulleen	Gully Reserve
28 May 06 400/600PM	Heidelberg	v	Oakleigh	Olympic Village
29 May 06 615/815PM	Fawkner	v	SMFC	Epping Stadium

Round 16

2 Jun 06 615/815PM	Oakleigh	v	Fawkner	Jack Edwards Reserve
2 Jun 06 630/830PM	Richmond	v	Knights	Kevin Bartlett Reserve
3 Jun 06 100/300PM	Frankston	v	Gully	Monterey Reserve
4 Jun 06 1245/300PM	SMFC	v	Kingston	Bob Jane Stadium
4 Jun 06 100/300PM	Preston	v	Altona	BT Connor Reserve
4 Jun 06 100/300PM	SGX	v	Essendon	Chaplin Reserve
5 Jun 06 615/815PM	Bulleen	v	Heidelberg	Veneto Social Club

SOCCKER HOTLINE: Got a story call the hotline 03 9645 1440 or email news@goalweekly.com

WELCOME BACK FOR SEASON 2006

As you have gathered by the front cover Goal! Weekly is back for 2006 and we have returned bigger and better with a range of developments that will make this year an unforgettable one.

As Victoria's only dedicated football newspaper Goal! Weekly will now come out Mondays and will provide a complete run-down on the Victorian Premier League or the Vodafone Cup as it is now known, including previews for any scheduled Monday night fixtures.

Its extensive coverage of the local game will be complemented by the latest results from all the top leagues

in the world as well as a weekly countdown of the 2006 World Cup. Our weekly columnists will continue to comment on various issues and this year esteemed football writer and chief-football reporter from

The Age newspaper, Michael Lynch also joins the team.

With a wider distribution, going to over 500 newsagents, Goal! Weekly will strive to provide the Victorian football community with a voice unavailable in any other publication.

Our growing team is committed to

expanding the coverage of the local game while still maintaining a wider focus on the world stage by proving



weekly content on the UK, Europe and South America.

Well here it goes- The World Cup is upon us and Australia is in so it will definitely be one to be remembered. Goal! Congratulates the Socceroos and on that note we have included a commemorative poster from that history making victory over Uruguay last year.

We encourage all of our readers to provide feedback so if you have something to say email us on feedback@goalweekly.com or write us at PO Box 142, Port Melbourne 3207.

Inside Goal! Weekly

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Advertising: (03) 9645-1440
news@goalweekly.com

Editor: Costa Koutropoulos
Production: Carlos Ibarra

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Vodafone Cup, Football starts here!

Football Federation Victoria has launched its 2006 season with a brand new name and slogan. This year the premier men's teams in the state will be fighting for the Vodafone Cup.

Mobile phone giant Vodafone is entering its second year as the premier partner of FFV and their support has increased to an

Australia step onto the biggest stage of all, the FIFA World Cup. "We have adopted the new marketing theme of - Football Starts Here. It applies to the Vodafone Cup right down to our junior programs," explains Pignata.

"With the success of World Cup qualification, we want to remind the community that these great

VODAFONE CUP

exciting new level.

"The great fit between FFV's premier competitions and Vodafone will continue this year - bigger and better than ever," says Federation Chief Executive Officer Tony Pignata.

"The name change to Vodafone Cup represents an increase in both parties' commitments to grow the game of football in Victoria and the Vodafone brand," he said.

Mr. Pignata is also excited about the theme of Victorian football in this year - a period that will see

dreams begin in the local fields and parks across the state where names like Bresciano, Grella, Viduka and Culina started their journey."

The Vodafone Cup was launched on the banks of the Yarra last night, with Minister for Sport and Recreation and Commonwealth Games, the Honourable Justin Madden on hand.

The Vodafone Cup kicks-off on Friday night with newcomers Kingston at home to Sunshine and Essendon hosting the other newly promoted team, Richmond.

SOME MOMENTS REQUIRE THE BEST

Danny Photo

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Monday 30 January

DAMIANOS REPLACEMENT ON THE HORIZON

Following the loss of Bill Damianos in the off-season, to pre-season favourites Oakleigh, last years Runners-up were expected to struggle without the input of the Mid-field general.

However, it has been revealed that United are close to securing the signature of a replacement for the influential star in time for the season kick-off early next month.

The club has been quiet in the transfer market, with the only notable signing being that of youngster Saranti Parissos, but, in news that was closely guarded by Heidelberg officials, a source made known that the club are close to signing a player

by Damianos' departure.

It was said, "Bill is certainly a hard boy to replace. We all know what Bill Damianos is capable of doing, and as it is at this moment in time, we haven't cemented anyone to fill the hole that Billy has left.

"We do have a few names on paper at the moment that we're (Heidelberg) definitely talking to. If these players come across and we are pretty confident of getting their signatures, I think that (the club) will be a competitive force again even without Billy".

All that remains now is to identify the potential replacements but with the fast approaching start of the season, they are sure to be revealed sooner rather than later

to fill the gaping hole left behind

By Simon Chiarelli.



Oakleigh bound Bill Damianos, leaving some big shoes to fill at Olympic Village.

KNIGHTS OUT FOR RESPECT

Speaking to Knights coach Josip Biškić and his assistant Josip Špoljar, it only takes you a few minutes to see that the burning ambition for the Knights this season is "Respect."

Both men take it personally how the former two time Australian Champion whimpered out in the final years of the NSL, and both men are determined to restore pride to former NSL giant.

"I think we lost that respect a few years ago, but I think that respect is coming back."

"I'm not afraid of anyone in this league, the Knights have developed there own pedigree and standard, and we shouldn't fear anyone."

A determined Biškić said.

Biška as he is known by the Sommers street faithful has brought with him an edict to the 2006 Knights squad that was etched in his philosophy during his illustrious playing career.

"As a player and coach, always respect your opponent, but I was never afraid of the opposition. Respect everybody, but believe in



yourself."

Quizzing the Knight's "Gaffer" about his goals for season 2006 it's obvious that finals action is on Biška's mind.

"My goal is always has been to aim for the top, as player and a coach".

"I'm always looking to achieve something."

"I don't like giving predictions, but I am asking my players to play attractive Football that the supporters will appreciate...I'm aiming for the top six, and anything less will be a huge disappointment for me. I will be extremely disappointed if we didn't finish in the top six, I believe that we have the players to figure in the finals."

A view shared by Knight's captain and shot stopper Adrian Čagalj.

"We have played seven pre-season games and we have had six clean sheets. We look more organised and everybody has gelled more. We've got to aim for the top six."

By Bruno Zovko

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VODAFONE CUP

The Big Kick-Off


ALTONA MAGIC FC



A stellar Victorian Premier League season in 2005 and a busy off-season has again put Altona Magic in a position of power approaching the new season.

The Magic, which finished runner up in 2004 to Bulleen before scraping into the finals last year, is about to launch into another campaign under Ken Murphy, who took over the reins last season.

It will be a new-look outfit that takes the field in round one this week, with first team regulars Cameron Pino, Marcus Stergiopoulos and Martin John leaving the club in the off season. But Murphy and his coaching staff believe they have found some able replacements after a fruitful search during the sum-

mer months.

Heading the list of new arrivals is promising goalkeeper Boje Jevdjovic, who was snapped up to replace John, and defender Agim Sherifovski, who crossed from Bulleen.

Both players were on the Altona's list in 2004 and will be hoping to re-establish themselves in the Premier League.

Also on their way to Paisley Park are Ivan and Tomi Razov, who each played regular senior football for St Albans and Melbourne Knights respectively last year.

The current squad of more than 20 players will be whittled down in the next few weeks, and the club will be keeping one eye on the transfer market for more

possible inclusions into the starting 11.

The squad has been busy on the training track in the last few months, combining pre season friendlies with participation in the Crazy John's Cup.

While trialing different formations and players, Murphy's team has produced some encouraging results so far, including victories over Preston, Green Gully and Essendon and a quarter final appearance in the pre season cup.

Altona recovered well from a poor start in 2005, where it won just one match from its first eight, to slip into the final position in the top six.

A draw in the final round against

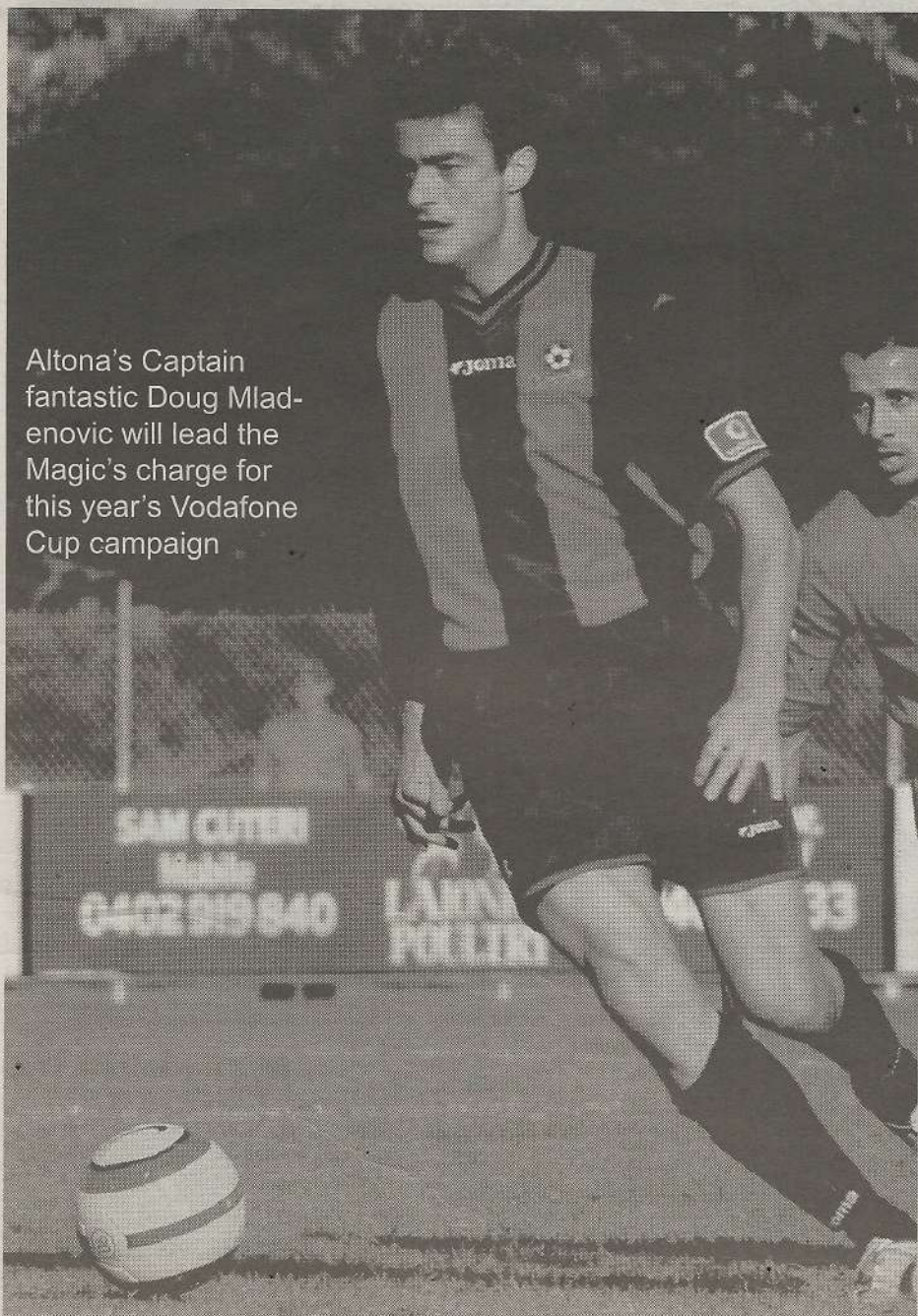
eventual premier Green Gully was enough for the Magic to squeeze through, just one point clear of Preston.

But it drew an in form South Melbourne unit keen to impress in its first season back in the VPL and fell 3-0 in the quarter finals.

This year the Magic will be hoping to pick up as many points as possible in the opening rounds to set up another strong finish and a shot at the premiership.

It begins the 2006 campaign against another of last year's quarter finalists, Fawkner/Whittlesea, on Monday 6 February.

By James Taylor



Altona's Captain fantastic Doug Mladenovic will lead the Magic's charge for this year's Vodafone Cup campaign

2006 SQUAD LIST

Peter Kasabasic	Renewal
Jason Dimov	Renewal
Darren Lewis	Renewal
Bruno Marafioti	Renewal
Darcy Mingovski	Renewal
Daniel Mladenovski	Renewal
Mende Petreski	Renewal
Steven Talevski	Renewal
Alexander Naumovski	Renewal
Stiven Mrkela	Ren
Doug Mladenovic	Ren
Kole Delev	Ren
Koce Delev	Ren
Alfonso Opazo	Ren
Sash Becvinovski	Ren
Levent Osman	Ren
Pece Cergovski	Ren
Jason Dimitrievski	Ren
Slave Bozinovski	Ren
Igor Kolevski	Ren
John Cvetkovski	Ren

Coach: Ken Murphy

Vodafone Cup Round 1

Fawkner/Whittlesea v Altona Magic

Epping Stadium, Epping
KO 8.15pm
Monday 6th February

Monday 30 January



VODAFONE CUP

The Big Kick-off


BULLEEN ZEBRAS FC



As one of the largest clubs in Victoria, with a proud history to match, Bulleen will be looking to begin the steady climb back to the top of the VPL ladder after a disappointing 2005.

Last season will be one to forget for the club after the Zebras, as reigning premiers, slipped to the brink of relegation only to be saved by a last day victory over co-tenants of the Veneto Social Club, Essendon.

Following the season's completion, the club announced the signing of new Coach Michael Michalakopoulos, who had been released from Essendon under dubious circumstances earlier in the year. Michalakopoulos is pleased to have signed at a club of Bulleen's prestige and is ready to handle the pressure, which comes with the job, "I enjoy being under pressure,

more so than being at club that is looking to make the numbers".

The Bulleen gaffer is seeking success in his first season in charge and is optimistic of the Club's prospects, "Our objective is to play finals. I am very much in that frame of mind and looking to do that (play finals).

"We are gearing to hopefully achieve this goal and will do everything we can to do it".

Following the disappointing year, the club in a sign of ongoing ambition to re-build, chose not to re-sign premiership coach Peter Ollerton and his son, former Best and Fairest Ryan Ollerton. The club instead resigned much of its younger brigade including rising star Peter Koutsopoulos, whilst retaining the core of their squad.

Michalakopoulos praised the decision of club president Ron Lammada and head of football operations Joe Sala, to settle contracts pre-season stating "they run a very professional organization.

"It helps the side when the players know that they are wanted as it allows them to concentrate on their football"

The squad was defensively sound last season, but found it's Achilles heel to be up front.

Michalakopoulos is hoping youngster, Peter Koutsopoulos, who is currently with the Australian Schoolboys side, will add the spark needed. Koutsopoulos was one of Bulleen's top goal-scorers last season, regardless of the limited opportunities afforded him by then coach Ollerton.

Despite the excellent captaincy of Stelios Drakos, Michalakopoulos wants his senior players to accept greater leadership responsibility on the park. "We have some fantastic leaders at the club, however, there are some boys who have been there for a while and we are looking for them to stand up".

Bulleen has performed well in recent pre-season matches, including a 2-0 victory away at Kingston and a recent win in the first round of the pre-season competition.

With a new manager at the helm, Bulleen will be looking to rise back up the VPL table and is one of the team's to watch in Season 2006.

By Simon Chiarelli

2006 SQUAD LIST

Dean Tartaglia	Ren	
Stelios Drakos	Ren	
Ross Antoniadis	Ren	
Simon Bell	Ren	
Dean Piermonte	Ren	
Dennis Vucinic	Ren	
Chris Emsovski	Ren	
Ari Drakos	Ren	
Damian Guglielmi	Ren	
Peter Koutsopoulos	Ren	
Michael Mazzini	Ren	
Steve Martin	Ren	
Adam Fadjevic	Ren	
Josh Del Rio	Ren	
Nick Veljovic	Ren	
Nick Roganovic	Ren	
Mark McGough	Ren	
Gianni Barbier	Ren	
Costa Tsioukis	Ren	
Tony Alessandrino	Ren	
Matt Forte	Ren	
Aleksandar Stojanovski	Trans From Bulleen JSC	
Hamlet Armenian	Transfer	
Nicholas Kalifatidis	Trans From Bulleen JSC	
Chris Colaneri	Transfer From Knox City	
Joshua Benigno	Trans From Bulleen JSC	

Coach:
Michael Michalakopoulos

Vodafone Cup Round 1

Frankston Pines v Bulleen Zebras
Monterey Reserve, Frankston
KO 6pm
Sunday 5th February

Issue #1



Bulleen's Peter Koutsopoulos will be looking to establish himself in 2006.



VODAFONE CUP

The Big Kick-Off



ESSENDON ROYALS



With less than a week remaining until the start of one of the closest Victorian Premier League seasons on record, the Essendon Royals must be wondering where their goals are coming from this season.

The Royals have thus far been unable to replace the seemingly irreplaceable, with Michael Curcija's transfer to Kingston City surprising team officials since his apparent commitment to the club at last year's Gold Medal night and Royals presentation night.

The striker cited a willingness to play finals football as his primary reason for moving on, as the Royals went close to seeing finals action in three successive seasons except for a late season slide. "I've only got so many years left in me, and I want to win something. I think I've got more chance of playing finals and winning something than I did at Essendon. I can't complain about my time at Essendon because I finished top scorer for two seasons in a row, but I think I've got more chance here."

The loss of four key play-

ers, including Ben Harbinson to Bulleen, Steve Iosifides to Kingston City and Tony Celentano to Richmond has hit the Royals hard, but Football Operations Manager, John Attard, insists that the club remains optimistic that its youthful approach will bear fruit. "It is a disappointment that Curcija and Iosifides have moved on.

The club was not prepared to be held to ransom by players whose main motives were of a financial nature. Celentano felt that he needed a new challenge in the twilight of his career and Ollerton's departure from Bulleen made Ben's decision easy to return to a club he loves.

The club will continue to promote young up and coming players as it has done last season and will continue to try to attract a number of established players to keep the balance between youth and experience in the team.

The club will always be committed to developing and promoting youth and we are very confident that Essendon will be competitive and hold it's own against

their opposition in season 2006."

New coach for the 2006 season, Luciano Trani, had stints in 2004 with Fawkner, although brief, and had the difficult challenge of steering the Whittlesea Stallions away from relegation before his dismissal with three rounds remaining.

The former Brisbane Strikers NSL Assistant Coach is looking forward to a season that is likely to be difficult for the fledgling club, but is optimistic his group can surprise many front runners. "We're optimistic of a good season. Our preseason performances have been solid. All we want to achieve is being competitive.

It's imperative that we do this, and if we can we'll have every chance of knocking off any team. We're a side that's looking to be a tight knit unit and also well organised, so if we can harness that all together, I believe we can have a very good year."

Trani's relationship at the Brisbane Strikers with midfielder, David Pilic, has seen the 27 year old recruited to the Royals from the Gold Coast.

The talented midfielder will be expected to fill the void in the centre of the park since the shock departure of Tony Celentano, club stalwart and captain. In a preseason training camp in country NSW, the Royals players were given the task of selecting the new captain for the 2006 season by secret ballot. Nick Schwal was unanimously voted as captain, with Len Catalano as his vice captain for this season.

Despite a lack of big name signings, the Royals have signed two youngsters who are touted as up-coming senior VPL players. Daniel Eskander from Altona City and Ilce Mladenovski from Sydenham Park have both seen action in a busy preseason, and several of last season's youth team players have been elevated to the senior squad. The likes of Joseph Yousseff, Michael Mazzarella, James Verkic and Daniel Ferguson will be pressing for starting berths at a team facing a difficult challenge of avoiding relegation.

By John Bonacci

2006 SQUAD LIST

Serdar Pir	Ren	
Nathan Thomas	Ren	
Mile Medjedovic	Ren	
Daniel Eskander	Trans Altona City	
James Verkic	Ren	
Joseph Yousseff	Ren	
Joel Davey	Ren	
Ilce Mladenovski	Trans Sydenham	
Daniel Ferguson	Ren	
David Pilic	Trans Gold Coast Knights	
Nick Schwal	Ren	
Len Catalano	Ren	
Nathan Thomas	Ren	Coach: David Winton
Cameron Miles	Ren	
Michael Catalano	Ren	
Frank Catalano	Ren	

Vodafone Cup Round 1

Essendon Royals v Richmond Eagles

Veneto Social Club, Bulleen
KO 8.15pm
Friday 3rd February



Monday 30 January



VODAFONE CUP

The Big Kick-off



FAWKNER/WHITTLESEA



Fawkner Whittlesea appears to have made only minor adjustments to its playing roster thus far, retaining the services of the majority of its squad from last season.

Steve Tilovski secures his position as club captain once again, whilst the Blues are forced to bid farewell to Robert Stojceviski and Frank Tramontana, who makes the move away from Epping Stadium to join Bulleen for the '06 season.

Bolstering the Blues attack will be former Preston Lions captain Johnny Sapazovski, along with defender Eddie Awad who makes the move from Thomastown.

Jurica Siljanoski will be brought back into the squad; his fitness levels returned after an injury last season saw him play only

one game after joining the Blues mid year. The attacking midfielder has proven himself during the pre-season, whilst Tony Sterjovski and Sash Ognenovski have kept busy with the Victorian State Team, pulling off a 2-1 win over Melbourne Victory as they prepare for their encounter with Tianjin Teda and Xiamen in China in March.

The coaching staff has John Markovski pulling at the reigns once again this year with the aid of assistant coach Tony Ciantar, as the Blues go in search of another top six appearance this season. Fawkner Whittlesea made it as far as the Elimination Finals in '05 before the Oakleigh Cannons dashed their finals hopes with three unanswered goals.

Pre-season friendlies lined the Blues up with Malaysian giants,

Selangor FC. Fawkner Whittlesea prevailed with a 3-2 win over the Asian champions, who journeyed down under for a three match pre-season camp. Next stop was the Sunshine Georgies, who handed the Blues a pre-season pounding with a 4-0 result at Chaplin Reserve. The club managed to gain momentum despite the loss, fighting their way through to the semi finals of the Summer Cup with a 2-0 victory over North Coburg. The two goals came courtesy of newcomer Sapazovski, and former reserve player Nana Addo, who has since secured a spot in the senior squad, along with young gun Gregory Lombardo.

Injury woes still hover over Zoran Petrevski, whose knee injury may dampen his chances at round one action, whilst John Angelovski and Mark Tsiorlas are carrying only minor ailments

that Markovski is hopeful won't hinder their chances come kick off time.

The Blues last pre-season hit-out is against South Melbourne (Tuesday 31st January, 8pm, Sommers Street) in the final of the Crazy John Cup.

The clubs efforts however will be more concertedly focused on their 2006 Premier League campaign, which kicks off for the Blues on the 6th of February against Altona Magic at Epping Stadium.

By Talia Cerritelli

2006 SQUAD LIST

Mal Impiombato	Ren	Sasa Ognenovski	Ren	Coach: John Markovski
Michael Bosevski	Ren	Mark Tsiorlas	Ren	
Danny Madaroski	Ren	John Angelovski	Ren	
Mark Vazzocchi	Ren	Zoran Petrevski	Ren	
David Mangano	Ren	Kyriakos Gerohristodoulou	Ren	
Oguzhan Gurkan	Ren	Jurica Siljanoski	Ren	
Dario Di Napoli	Ren	Marko Silic	Ren	
Adam Garisto	Ren	Billy Sianidis	Ren	
David Garisto	Ren	Steven Tilovski	Ren	
Jason Principato	Ren	Tony Sterjovski	Ren	
Marc Siciliano	Ren	Ricky Chillico	Ren	
Anthony Colosimo	Ren	Rob Cosner	Transfer from Fawkner JSC	
Michael Packovski	Ren	Chris Raponi	Transfer from Whittlesea JSC	
Edward Awad	Transfer from Thomastown	Simon Lamanda	Transfer from Whittlesea JSC	
Johnny Sapazovski	Transfer from Preston Lions	Matthew Serratore	Transfer from Fawkner JSC	
Nana Addo	Ren	Tayfun Aydin	Transfer from Fawkner JSC	
Gregory Lombardo	Ren			



Left: Fawkner's Zoran Petrevski finished as the Blues' top scorer last season and aims to lead the pack once again in 2006

Vodafone Cup Round 1

Fawkner/Whittlesea

v

Altona Magic

Epping Stadium, Epping

KO 8.15pm

Monday 6th February



VODAFONE CUP

The Big Kick-Off


FRANKSTON PINES



I guess many are already putting Frankston Pines as their tip for relegation. Reality is, it's nothing new, as season after season Frankston Pines are regarded as a non contender but somehow continue to baffle the so called experts.

You can even imagine that – along with a rude single digit finger – that those at the Pines reply to these experts would be "Where staying right here". Perhaps the most significant reply was in 2003 when the clams of being relegation favorites were answered by actually making the grand final!

Frankston Pines strengths do not lie in such prima-donnas like attitude that is so commonly found in many players. The Pines are generally a very strong physical team and mentally focused on their objective. Also, because of the financial constraints, Frankston have

given opportunities for up and coming players a chance to shine on the big stage. Players such as Ricky Diaco & Peter Hader where two such players that where given a chance in the Premier League with Frankston and have not looked back since.

Last season was a testing one for all involved. After a sensational start to the season, it almost fell apart when Coach Stan Webster was away from his coaching obligations for awhile due to a death in the family. The Pines fell from been a finals contender to a relegation candidate. On top of that an emotional Stan Webster quit the club, joined Richmond and returned back to the Pines in a space of one week. Fortunately for Frankston Pines they where able to regroup at a vital time, as they found enough points to avoid relegation.

So what's in store for their 2006

opponents in the Vodafone Premier League? One major change is that there is a new coach at the helm. Long time and well respected coach Stan Webster has turn his attention down a league to the State League 1 club Dandenong Thunder. His replacement is Craig Lewis who has played significant role as striker for clubs such as Langwarrin, Essendon Royals, Dandenong Thunder, Sunshine George Cross and also the team he will now lead, the Frankston Pines. You got to say the club's name in a strong Scottish accent for full effect.

This is not the first time that Craig Lewis has coach, as he actually led the Frankston Pines to the State League 2 championship in 1999, capturing a staggering 19 wins along the path to glory. But lets be honest, this challenge dwarfs that championship season, as the Vodafone Premier League has

become increasingly competitive and far more expensive to compete in with some clubs finding those much wanted money trees!

Still I feel the Frankston Pines will continue to make Monterey Boulevard a fortress and will humble the larger funded clubs time and time again.

You can say it is a bit of a rebuilding period this season and a place just under the finals positions is perhaps where they may eventually end up.

Club president Alan Hokinson is, as always, upbeat about the prospect of his club in the coming season. "I think it's shaping up to be a very interesting VPL indeed... we have signed Dino Djulbic, Antonio Naglieri, and Andres Oliviera all from Perth premier

By Steve Gray



2006 SQUAD LIST

Kris Patterson	Ren	Antonio Naglieri	Interstate from Perth SC
Trent Malcolm	Ren	Dino Djulevic	Interstate from Perth SC
William Armour	Ren	Andreas Oliveira	Interstate from Perth SC
Boris Ovcin	Ren	Craig Metcosse	Transfer from Sth Springvale
Nicholas Waite	Ren	Kiern Mclvor	Ren
Cameron Leapold	Ren	Ben Cullen	Ren
Brad Zeally	Ren	Dominic D'Angelo	Ren
Anastasios Psonis	Transfer from Bentleigh Greens	Cameron Dunne	Ren
Michael Anderson	Transfer from Richmond	Adrian D'Ortenzo	Ren

Coach: Craig Lewis

Vodafone Cup Round 1

Frankston Pines
v
Bulleen Zebras
Monterey Reserve,
Frankston
KO 6pm
Sunday 5th February

Monday 30 January



VODAFONE CUP

The Big Kick-Off



GREEN GULLY FC



To all followers of the Victorian Premier League (VPL), the Green Gully Cavaliers need no introduction.

The four-time champions of Victoria are preparing for another assault on the league after celebrating its 50th anniversary with a 2-0 win over Heidelberg United in the grand final last year.

But unlike some of its rivals in the VPL, the Cavaliers have not been overly aggressive in the summer months with the cheque book and will start the season without a recognised striker.

With Nick Tsaltas and Josip Rajher leaving the club in the off season, Gully will rely heavily on its powerful midfield to score the bulk of its goals until a suitable

replacement is found.

It was the dangerous midfield of Brandon Vassallo, Jeffrey Fleming and Lubo Lapsanski which led the side to the premiership in 2005, and along with a rock solid defence it still has an uncanny ability to grind out favourable results.

The club has bolstered its midfield and defensive playing stocks by adding Steven Camilleri from Sunshine Georgies, Ryan Oller-ton from Bulleen and Kurt Far-rugia, who has travelled to Green Gully Reserve via Malta.

The recruits will join a number of up-and-coming first team players in 2006, in what the club is hoping will be another formidable green and white combination.

Green Gully has used the pre-season to trial its list in friendly matches, and thus far it had returned some indifferent results against Melbourne Knights, Al-tona and North Coburg.

But when the season kicks off this week, Gully will again become the hunted team in the competition after dominating the home and away competition in the past two years.

Last year the Cavaliers jostled for top position in the league with South Melbourne and Heidelberg, but lasted the distance and finished on top of the 14-team league with 13 wins from 26 matches, following its minor premiership in 2004.

After some nervous penalty shootouts in the finals, it completed a fairytale year by putting two goals past United in the final to confirm its standing as a premier league giant.

The Cavaliers kick off the new season against Oakleigh Cannons, who have made significant changes to its list in the off season.

Gully met the Cannons twice last year, returning a 2-2 away draw and a 3-2 home win. It is a successful club with a proud history, and Green Gully will not give up its grip on the Premier League trophy without a fight.

By Don McLean

2006 SQUAD LIST

David Christopher	From Sorrento (WA)	Dragi Nastevski	Ren
Lupo Lapsansky	Ren	Jeffrey Fleming	Ren
Brandon Vassallo	Ren	Dean Fak	Ren
Rodrigo Vargas	Ren	Matthew Dimech	Ren
Patricio Vargas	Ren	Jeffrey Fleming	Ren
Zoran Markovski	Ren		
Ante Loncaric	Ren	Coach: Ian Dobson	
Pasi Schwalger	Ren		
Phillip Riccobene	Ren		

Vodafone Cup Round 1

Green Gully
v
Oakleigh Cannons

Green Gully Reserve
KO 6pm
Sunday 5th February



Green Gully will hope to repeat last season's VPL success and remain Victoria's premier footballing side.



VODAFONE CUP

The Big Kick-Off


HEIDELBERG UTD



Heidelberg will again be looking to be one of the main pacemakers in season 2006 after the wonderful achievement of playing in the 2005 VPL Grand Final against Green Gully. It was an admirable achievement in their first season back to the top domestic league outside the newly formed Hyundai A league.

Coach Phil Stubbings has strengthened his side by luring promising youngster Ursen Gulum across from Coburg. Other new signings include Aaron Brazendale and Steve Grimshaw, who have had recent experience in the UK with Southampton, Bristol City and

Swindon. Their experience of playing football in the very competitive lower leagues of England will hopefully give the Warriors the extra edge needed to lift this year's Vodafone Cup.

The opening fixture for Heidelberg will see it face the team they knocked-out in last year's finals, South Melbourne. Coach Phil Stubbings will know that the boys from Albert Park will be looking for revenge, so it will be a tough start before they move on to Jack Edwards Reserve to play Stuart Munro's Oakleigh in round two. The opening fixtures could well set the trend for the rest of the season for the Warriors and it will obviously

be looking to get off to a positive start against its 'cross town rivals.

Bill Damianos' move to Oakleigh will be one of the bigger losses for the Berger's and also the departure of Veton Korkorevski to newcomers Richmond will test the resources of the team from Olympic Village this season.

Missing for the first four months of the season will be Joe Tricarico with hamstring problems. On the plus side the Berger's have signed a Nigerian striker Richard Anidi Nonso from Nigeria who will be looking to add some fire power to the forward line.

Anybody who watches the world game closely would tell you that the second year in the top level of any soccer competition around the world is always a lot harder than the first and this may well be the case for Heidelberg this year.

Although, under the astute leadership of Phil Stubbings I am sure the Berger's will again do their club and supporters very proud with at least a top six finish.

By Paul Jefferies

2006 SQUAD LIST

Steven Grimshaw	From England
Anthony Ouliaris	Ren
Saranti Parissos	From Adelaide Olympic
Daniel Jones	Ren
Nick Sabljak	Ren
Ersan Goulen	
Fidel Richards	From Richmond
Joe Tricarico	Ren
Yusef Yusef	Ren
Peter Roberts	Ren
Lupce Acevski	Ren
Robert Liparoti	Ren
George Tioulis	Ren
Eric Vassiliadis	Ren
Tony Ouliaris	Ren
Leigh Tsourmerkias	Ren
Albert Gjuni	From Melb Knights
Frank Lagana	New

Coach: Phil Stubbings

Vodafone Cup Round 1

Heidelberg United v South Melbourne
KO 5pm

Olympic Village, West Heidelberg
Sunday 5th February



Hotshot Joe Tricarico will hope the Bergers can go one better in 2006



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Monday 30 January



VODAFONE CUP

The Big Kick-Off



KINGSTON CITY



Following successful State League campaigns over the last two seasons, Kingston City are poised to begin their maiden voyage into the Victorian Premier League.

The man at the helm, senior coach George Katsakis believes the club can give a good account of itself. He says, "It's a big move in the club's history. They've had this ambition to be there. There's a very strong financial support behind the club. Obviously it puts a lot more pressure on me and the players".

Perhaps mindful of its inexperience at this level, the club has bolstered its senior squad with nine new signings in the pre season, including last year's top VPL marksman, Michael Curcija. He is joined by former NSL players, Steve Iosifidis,

Marcus Stergiopoulos and Con Anthopoulos. The club has also enlisted the services of former Melbourne Knights player, Alex Kiratzoglou and last season's leading Division One striker, Joe Di Orio from fellow newcomers, Richmond.

Coach George Katsakis is particularly enthusiastic about Di Iorio, claiming he "could be one of the most exciting players in the league". Di Iorio spent two formative years as a teenager on the books at Werder Bremen before homesickness forced him to return to Australia.

"His ability on the ball is unbelievable and his attitude is good," added Katsakis.

Whether Kingston can succeed at this level will depend on how well the new recruits gel into a cohesive unit. Coach Katsakis

believes that although they are an untried team, the players he has at his disposal "have got immense expertise and experience at NSL level. Therefore if they transfer that across to the VPL, you would say they'd have to be competitive."

One of the new challenges for the club will be accommodating the larger VPL crowds at their home ground at The Grange Reserve, Clayton South. According to Coach Katsakis, the club "needs to come to terms with VPL crowds. Games against South Melbourne, Oakleigh Heidelberg, and the big derby games will be a challenge in itself. We've done everything possible with the help of the council to give the boys a great surface to play on."

Katsakis watched over 30 VPL matches last year and believes

the competition will be very even again this year. "I would like to make the finals, because that's my ambition. It gives me something to strive towards. But if we can consolidate our place in the Premier League, and be a fairly strong competitor, I would say it would be a good achievement."

Many pundits believe that Kingston's intensive recruitment campaign should ensure safe navigation to the foot of the top six by season's end. Whether they taste finals football in their debut season will depend on how quickly they can settle into a cohesive unit.

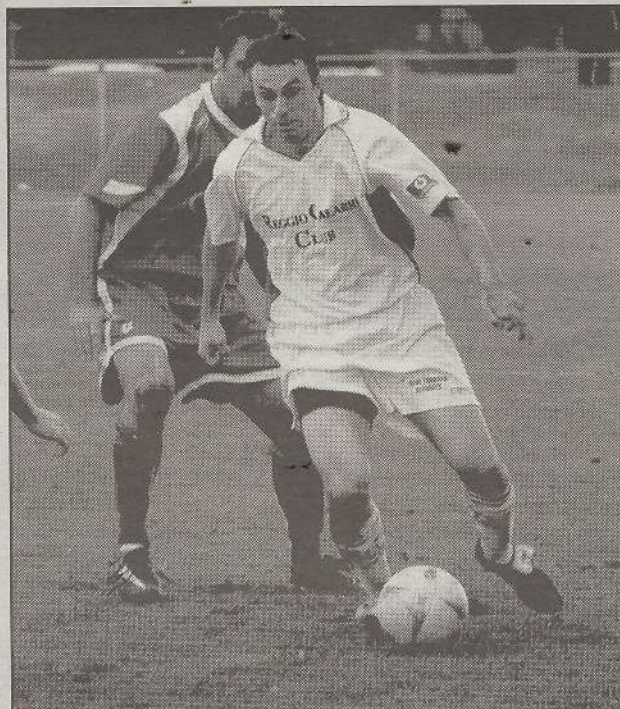
Prediction: Seventh place.

By George Stogiannou

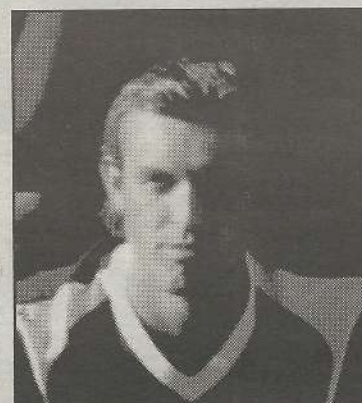
2006 SQUAD LIST

Con Anthopolous	Transfer from Oakleigh SC
Joe Di Iorio	Transfer from Richmond SC
Marcus Stergiopoulos	Transfer from Altona Magic
Joe Spiteri	Renewal
John Pappas	Renewal
Jim Kourtis	Renewal
Nick Papadopoulos	Renewal
Chris Konstas	Renewal
Alex Kiratzoglou	Transfer from Melbourne Knights
Dimitri Tsiaras	Transfer from Bentleigh Green SC
Cessar Hermosilla	Renewal
Jim Latinopoulos	Renewal
Stjepan Gal	Renewal
Michael Curcija	Transfer from Essendon Royals
Steve Iosifidis	Transfer from Essendon Royals
Nick Tolios	Transfer from Oakleigh SC
Frank Bazzano	Renewal
Christopher Fredes	Transfer From Brunswick City
George Loukas	Transfer from Preston Lions
Alexandru Sabau	Transfer from Brandon park
Phillip yatta	Xfr from Dingley City
Dean Fourtzis	Xfr from Port Melbourne
Nick Stamatiou	Ren from Contract
Jimmy Gourtsios	Ren
Adriano Chiappetta	ren
Steven Patsias	Ren
Daniel Iakovakis	Ren
George Tsitiridis	Ren
Andy Pantsoglou	Ren
Konstantinos Zambitoglou	Ren
Stavros Zarakostas	Ren

Coach: George Katsakis



Left: New acquisition Steve Iosifidis will add much midfield stability to the Grange Reserve outfit in 2006



The league's top marksman for 2005, Michael Curcija, will be wearing the colours of newly promoted Kingston City this season.

Vodafone Cup Round 1

Kingston City

v

Sunshine Georgies
KO 8.15pm

The Grange Reserve,
Kingston

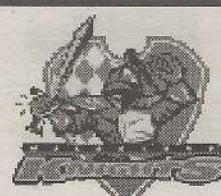
Friday 3rd February



VODAFONE CUP

The Big Kick-Off


MELBOURNE KNIGHTS



Melbourne Knights' finish of 9th in season 2005 was admirable to say the least, considering the club was inactive for almost twelve months, and a squad was put together virtually from scratch.

Daniel Piorkowski (who was subsequently picked up by the Victory) and Daniel Rocco were the only two former Knights NSL squad members to remain at the club, a situation which was also experienced by their cross town NSL rivals, South Melbourne.

Conversely the 2006 Knights are ready to solidify on their junior year, with the core of its playing group remaining on the roster from last season. Encouraging pre-season results (one loss in eight pre-season games) has instilled much needed confidence to the former NSL giant, as the boys from Sommers

Street, look set to shake up the top six for season 2006.

"I hope to make the top six, as a coach I will be bitterly disappointed with anything less. I have the players."

"Anything better than a top six finish, obviously won't give me a headache." coach, Josip Bišić said about his teams chances this year.

Players to make their exits from Sommers Street this season are, Alex Kiratzogalou (Kingston City), Tomi Razov (Altona Magic), Ivan Gelemanovic (Backpacking in the U.K), Ivan Zuvela (Returned back to Perth), Tony Saric (Nth. Geelong), and Albert Gjuni (Trialling with Heidelberg).

Like all other clubs in the VPL, the Knights were active in the

transfer market off-season, signing new players to complement their squad for season 2006; Ryan Casey (Swansea City), Goran Talesvski (Hadjuk Split), Marco Maisano and Craig Elvin (Frankston Pines).

One aspect of the game that the Knights have over the opposition teams which is not obvious to the general public, but is easily seen once you have been through enough VPL dressing rooms, is the great camaraderie and friendship between the players.

All egos are left outside the dressing room, as the players frequently mix socially outside of football. This great camaraderie shared between the players is something that newly promoted vice captain Josip Kozić intends to harness.

And most importantly, where will the Knights finish? Most probably at the lower end of the top six.

How far they go will depend on their consistency and football naos?

Last season the Knight's suffered for their naivety, getting sucked up forward and abandoning their defensive duties. Also they failed to hold more experienced opposition at bay while they were under the pump, something that last years champions, Green Gully mastered better than any other team in the VPL. But their pre-season form and astute signings, signal the revival of the old powerhouse from the western suburbs of Melbourne.

By Bruno Zovko

2006 SQUAD LIST

Davor Filipovic	Ren	Dennis Ukalovski	Ren
Stefan Piorkowski	Ren	Adam Zilic	Ren
Milan Batur	Ren	Damir Marusic	Ren
Luke Slater	Ren	Nikola Lukic	Ren
Marco Maisano	Transfer from Frankston Pines	Robert Lagator	Ren
Craig Elvin	Transfer from Frankston Pines	Ryan Filipovic	Ren
Tommy Milardovic	Ren	Zelimir Vranjic	Ren
Ivan Klarica	Ren	Vladco Juric	Ren
Nathan Caldwell	Ren	Mark Jurcevic	Ren
Andrew Barisic	Ren	Marijo Bosnjak	Ren
Boris Radman	Ren	Aaron Mvzaferovic	Ren
Goran Talevski	International Hajduk Croatia		
Brian Chesson	Ren		
Mario Ladjak	Transfer		

Coach: Josip Biskic

Vodafone Cup Round 1

Preston Lions v Melbourne Knights

BT Connor Reserve, Preston
KO 6pm
Sunday, 5th February



Far Left: President Stan Bilic will be hoping to fill the trophy cabinet in 2006 at Knights Stadium and will be looking towards Dario Matkovic (Left) to establish the western suburbs outfit as a powerhouse in Victorian football once again.

Monday 30 January



VODAFONE CUP

The Big Kick-Off


OAKLEIGH CANNONS



With the 2006 VPL season is only days away 'til kick off, it looks to be one of the most unpredictable and competitive seasons to date, with a number of clubs establishing strong squads in an attempt to challenge for the championship.

One of the competitions' most glamorous sides, Oakleigh Cannons are still searching for their maiden championship victory. Following a season of inconsistency, ill disciplined performances and a coaching casualty, Stuart Munro and his squad will be looking forward to a more resilient campaign to compliment their attacking brand of football.

The Jack Edwards Reserve faithful have plenty to be excited about, as the club has been very active on the transfer market. With a huge supporter base comes expectations and pressure, hence the board has reacted by acquiring several major signings to assist their

plight towards the "Holy Grail". The Cannons have acquired the services of one of the most expensive signings in the history of the VPL. Crafty attacking midfielder Billy Damianos joined the Cannons for a reported \$25,000 transfer fee (Herald Sun) from Heidelberg United. There is huge expectations on the dead ball specialist who the Cannons will be looking to for inspiration and leadership in the midfield.

The club has had a sound pre-season with solid victories against Port Melbourne, South Melbourne and most notably a 2-1 victory against Heidelberg United. Club sources say it has been a team orientated effort with the entire squad being given the opportunity to impress. Munro will be extremely pleased with all of his new signings showing glimpses of what's to come in the regular season. In particular, both Essala Massi and Billy Damianos have made an impressive start with several goals between them. Similarly,

the wiry Peter Kakos seems to have overcome the injury concerns which plagued his 2005 campaign and could prove to be the trump card in their 2006 campaign.

Strengths – Forward Line
With the likes of Pelikan, Goutzioulis, Nilo, Kakos, Damianos, Massi, Drossos and Cameron Pino, the Cannons have arguably the most potent attacking line up in the league and will be the envy of all of the remaining clubs. They will certainly be an exciting team.

Weaknesses - Defence
Although the experienced signing of former South Melbourne defender Steve Lawrie will provide a solid foundation, the loss of the experienced defensive duo Con Anthopoulos and Nick Tolios, will certainly weaken their team and may struggle with a susceptible defence.

The pre-season will conclude with the Crazy John cup and a

weekend in Ballarat, where the boys will have an opportunity to bond. According to General Manager Akis Ionnas, the club is expecting a finals birth with the real prospect of a grand final place.

Coach: Stuart Munro

Players In
Cameron Pino (Altona Magic), Steve Lawrie (Sydney FC), Essala Massi (Malaysia), Scott Webster (Frankston Pines), Billy Damianos (Heidelberg Utd.) and Greg Lascaris (Sunshine Georgies)

Players Out
Con Anthopoulos (Kingston City) and Nick Tolios (Kingston City)

CP's Prediction
Top six
"Will need to improve on last year's inconsistency if they are to pose a danger in the post season"

By Chris Priftis

2006 SQUAD LIST

Steve Laurie	From Sydney FC	Esala Masi	New
Antun Kovacic	Ren	Adam Ewin	New
Stuart Webster	Ren	Nick Katsamboukis	Ren
Cameron Pino	From Altona Magic	Sam Frangos	
Billy Damianos	From Heidelberg	Greg Lascaris	
Scott Webster	From Frankston Pines	Masumi Mashida	New
Felix Rosman	Ren	Danny Radojicic	Ren
Sam Poutakidis	Ren	George Abatzidis	Ren
George Goutzioulis	Ren	George Giannou	
Anthony Pelikan	Ren	Jim Drossos	Ren
Raj Kumar	Ren	Veressa Toma	Ren
Juan Nilo	Ren	Leigh Karatidos	Ren
Peter Kakos	Ren	Coach: Stuart Munro	

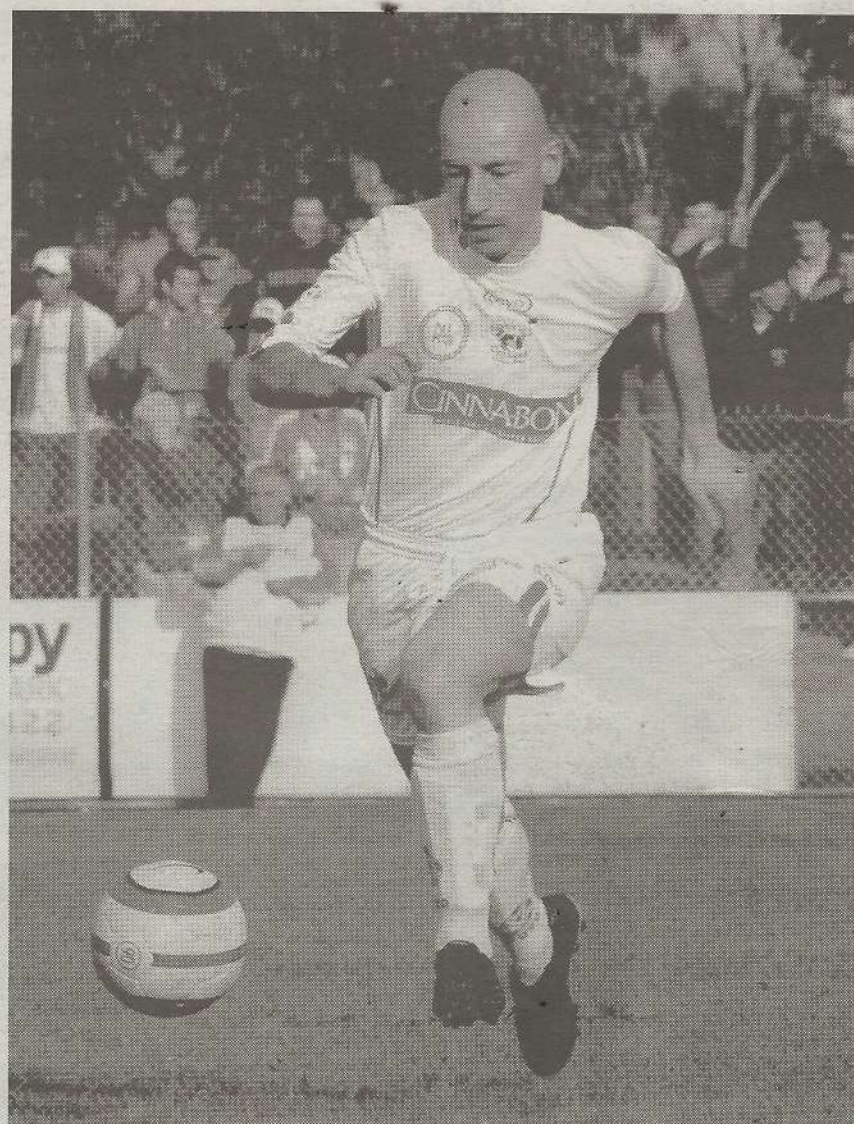


Former Glasgow Rangers star Stuart Munro will be calling the shots from the Jack Edwards dug-out for the Oakleigh's upcoming Vodafone Cup campaign.

Vodafone Cup Round 1

Green Gully
v
Oakleigh Cannons

Green Gully Reserve
KO 6pm
Sunday 5th February



Experienced campaigner Sam Poutakidis back for another term to help marshal the Cannon's defence and score the odd goal or two.



RODRIGO VARGAS

Green Gully Cavaliers FC



Instrumental midfielder/defender who scored seven goals to help Green Gully clinch the Vodafone VPL Championship in the club's 50th Anniversary year.

Rod capped off a tremendous season by also winning the club's Best Player Award and the Bill Flemming Medal.

Monday 30 January

AUST



Back Row: Brett Emmerton, Mark Schwarzer (GK), Tony
Front Row: Vince Grella, Lucas Neill, T



Issue #1

Coach: Guus Hiddink

Key players: Mark Viduka, Harry Kewell

World Cup record and best finish: Second appearance; first round (1974)

Last appearance: First round 1974.

World Cup odds: 125-1.

How qualified: Beat Uruguay in playoff.

Fact: Hiddink led the Netherlands to the semifinals in 1998 and South Korea to the last four in 2002.

AUSTRALIA

Deutschland Bound!



Vidmar, Tony Popovic, Scott Chipperfield, Mark Viduka (C),
Tim Cahill, Jason Culina, Marco Bresciano

GOAL!

WEEKLY

Group F

Australia v Japan: Kaiserslautern, Monday 12th June 2006 KO3pm

Brazil v Australia: Munich, Sunday 18th June 2006 KO6pm

Croatia v Australia: Stuttgart, Thursday 22nd June 2006 KO9pm

**KO in German Summer Time*



Monday 30 January



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VODAFONE CUP

The Big Kick-Off





PRESTON LIONS



With several exciting new signings complementing an already solid squad, the Preston Lions look set for a successful season in the Vodafone Men's Premier League this year.

The 2005 season came with its ups and downs for the Lions. Loosing their coach early in the season, Preston found their saviour in Vlado Vanis, who took over the senior coaching role shaking up a somewhat complacent Lions squad with his aggressive and uncompromising style. Players and supporters alike could not doubt his passion revealed through his very vocal sideline antics.

Onfield results were mixed with the Lions struggling to find some consistency throughout the season. The infamous pitch invasion in the round 10 clash

with South Melbourne also cost Preston valuable premiership points. As the race to the finals drew to a close, Preston was still hopeful at landing a finals berth but a humiliating 5-0 loss to Oakleigh ended the dream. "This is the worst possible finish to the season," said Vanis at the time.

However, season 2005 was not without its rewards for Preston with club mainstay Anthony Magnacca winning the coveted Victorian Premier League Gold Medal while the ever-improving Serkan Oksuz was named under 21 player of the year leaving Preston extremely optimistic in 2006.

Adding to their optimism, the Lions have secured a number of highly experienced players to fill important positions at the club in 2006.

Stephen Weah will no doubt take over the striking role left vacant by former club captain Johnny Sapazovski, who has signed on with Fawkner. A twenty-eight year old Liberian international, Weah is a prolific goal scorer who has had a successful career in Asia along with scoring eight goals in twelve internationals.

At thirty-one, former Macedonian international goalkeeper Goce Gruevski is a much anticipated arrival with some thirteen years experience in the Macedonian first division sure to add depth to the Lions' squad. "He will make a big difference in our team," said Vanis.

Regarded as one of the best NSW Premier League players, former Bonnyrigg player Tayfun Devrimol will also join the Li-

ons. Filling a midfield role along with the likes of Magnacca and Stephen Pace, Preston look to be extremely dangerous through the middle in 2006.

Vanis is looking for a change in attitude for his charges in the imminent season. "There must be more aggression in the team," he said. "We were too passive last year and it cost us goals."

Regarding his hopes for 2006, Vanis said: "Every team has an objective to finish in the top six and avoid relegation. But we have probably the highest support of the Victorian clubs and we owe it to our supporters to finish in one of the top spots."

By Jonathan Kelly

2006 SQUAD LIST			
Les Anastasiou	Ren	Zaya Younan	Ren
Pece Dimovski	Ren	Daniel Zilic	Ren
Rob Dolevski	Ren	Thomas Tolevski	Ren
Yannis Galanos	Ren	Goce Gruevski	International from FYROM
Anthony Magnacca	Ren	Daniel Miller	Ren
Steven Mancevski	Ren	Serkan Oksuz	Ren
Steven Pace	Ren	Chris Rachkovski	Ren
Haris Vrbovac	Ren	Steven Joleski	Ren



Left: Preston's 2005 VPL Best and Fairest winner Anthony Magnacca will no doubt excite crowds with his silky midfield skills at BT Connor Reserve this year.

Far Left: VPL defenders will have be aware of Lions' Striking sensation Serkan Oksuz who will continue to terrorise opponents in 2006.

Vodafone Cup Round 1

Preston Lions v Melbourne Knights

BT Connor Reserve, Preston

KO 6pm

Sunday, 5th February

Monday 30 January



VODAFONE CUP

The Big Kick-off


RICHMOND EAGLES



This season sees the return of Richmond to the top flight of Victorian football for the first time since 1963.

After several third placed finishes in the First Division in the 1990's, Richmond finally achieved promotion after finishing a clear second in the 2005 State League Division One.

Under the instruction of Dean Hennessey who joined the club after the resignation of Andy O'Dell in May, Richmond embarked on a nine-game unbeaten run in June and July, which put the club in prime position for promotion. The dream was finally realized in August when a 3-0 victory over Langwarrin at home on a Friday night was

followed by third-placed Altona East losing to Brunswick City on the Sunday.

Founded in 1953 as Maribyrnong, the club relocated after finishing runner's-up in Division Four in 1954 and took the name Alemannia Richmond. Division One South Championships in 1960 and 1962 saw brief spells in the State League, the forerunner of today's VPL. Most of the club's existence has been in the First Division, but relegation in 2000 saw a drop to Division Two North West. Former President Helmut Kalitzki returned to the role and sought promotion.

After being relocated to the South East in 2002, the Andy O'Dell led team won promotion

by taking out the 2003 State League Division Two South East Championship. Peter Psarros scored 13 goals, taking out the League's top goal-scorer title along the way.

The club goes into the 2006 VPL season with a large senior squad, retaining the bulk of the promotion winning side with the addition several new players. Australian Under-20 goalkeeper Nick Crossley joins the club after a short stint with Adelaide United. NSL experienced defender and VPL Championship winner Josip Rajher has been signed from Green Gully.

The most notable departure is two time State League Division One Best and Fairest winner,

Joey Di Iorio to Kingston City. Former player Jimmy McBride has returned to the club as Hennessey's assistant with Egon Schille taking the reins of the Under 21 team.

The squad has been injected with plenty of youth, though Alex Rojas looks like missing the year with a knee injury picked up in a friendly against Preston Lions. With a handful of veterans, as well as the likes of Xhezair Sulemani, Craig Murphy, Veton Korcarevski and Simon Webster who are young but highly experienced, it is a well-balanced side more than capable of being competitive at the top level.

By Mark Boric

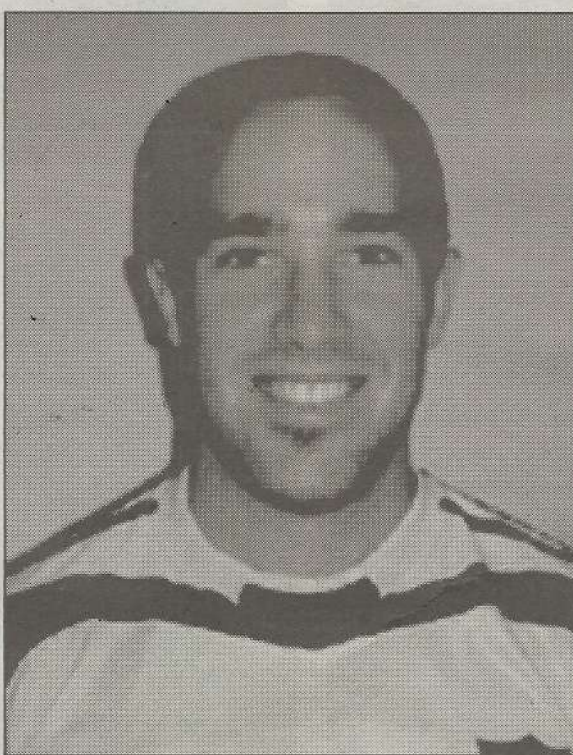
2006 SQUAD LIST

Steven Peter Burton	New - Overseas	James Baskerville	Ren
Graham Hockless	New - Overseas	Robert Simioni	Ren
Simon Webster	From Frankston Pines	Andrew Viola	Transfer from Bulleen
Semir Sivic	From Frankston Pines	Andrew Ross	Ren
Antonio Celentano	From Essendon Royals	Khalid Bobe	Ren
Veton Korcarevski	From Heidelberg United	Cory Galea	Ren
Alex Rojas	From Bentleigh Greens	Michael Goddard	Ren
Brenden Beni	From Heidelberg United	Jad Hamzi	Ren
Daniel Visevic	From South Melbourne	Michael Pipertzis	Ren
David Caserta	Transfer from Bulleen	Ross Scalia	Ren
Shane Rexhepi	Transfer from North Sunshine	Yasmin Sivic	Ren
Nicholas Kalambokis	Transfer from Bulleen	Daniel Tsitos	Ren
Cameron Jon	Ren	Thomas Williams	Ren
Craig Murphy	Ren	Stefan Zauri	Ren
John Petridis	Ren	Coach: Dean Hennessey	

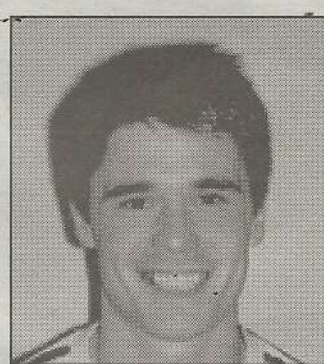


Josip Radjer joins one of the many new faces at newly promoted and newly named Richmond Eagles for this term.

Issue #1



Cameron Jones' nose for goals helped Richmond secure its long awaited promotion to the VPL will he miss Joey Di Orio this year.



New Richmond signing Andy Ross will look to impress in the VPL after stints with Chelsea and Partick Thistle in the UK.

Vodafone Cup Round 1

Essendon Royals
v
Richmond Eagles

Veneto Social Club, Bulleen
KO 8.15pm
Friday 3rd February

MERRICK UNDER FIRE

ALL IN FAVOUR SAY "YEA"

MEMBERS of the Melbourne Victory supporters groups have thrown their weight behind manager Ernie Merrick in a vote of confidence for the under-fire manager.

Merrick, who has suffered a disappointing season at the helm of the Victory has been made the victim of a public campaign to turf the Scotsman out of a job after a pair of teenagers started up the website www.sackmerrick.tk

Members of The 'Union' and the 'Blue and White Brigade' – the two groups of fans who consistently turn out in droves and liven up the Northern Terrace at Olympic Park with their noise, colour and atmosphere today spoke to Goal! Weekly.

"We would like to make it known that the Blue and White Brigade and the Union have no association whatsoever with the so called 'fans' who decided to make this website" Brigade co-founder Adam Tennenini said.

Peter Cass, founder of the other

key supporters group the Union, made clear his support of Merrick.

"This year we've had our ups and downs, we haven't had a great year but we've enjoyed some great moments this season. We defeated Sydney 5-0 and were on top of the league, so to say this season has been a complete write-off is total nonsense" he said.

"I think the supporters have been very harsh on Merrick. The season hasn't been that great, but he has identified the areas we need to improve and hopefully we can build on our first season on the A-League".

"Issues like this help us find the real 'fans'. Standing in the terrace with a 'Sack Merrick' banner at a match in the first season, which isn't even finished, is disgraceful".

Melbourne Victory officials declined to comment on the matter.

By James Whilloughby

ALL AGAINST SAY "NAY"

THE 21-year old who set the www.SackMerrick.com website up broke his silence today in a world exclusive to Goal Weekly, with the University student who wishes not to be named, going one-on-one with James Willoughby.

James Willoughby: What was the **motivation in starting the Sack-Merrick campaign?**

Sack Merrick: The sporting capital city of Australia, deserves better than 2nd last position. We have travelled around Australia to support the boys and it hurts us watching the coach giving our players pathetic tactics. This is a coach that took off an attacking midfielder (Lia) for a defensive midfielder (Rechia) when we were losing one-nil. Something has to be done, Merrick simply does not have the support from the fans and my job is to make Geoff Lord aware of that.

JW: Do you think a manager with more experience at a higher level would have been a better choice?

SM: There is always something wrong when the players have more experience at the top level than the coach. When you are building a team from scratch you need someone with experience and a former Under 12's VIS coach will not take us forward to success.

JW: What has Ernie's biggest mistake been?

SM: The biggest mistake was his recruiting, as a new team we needed to be successful in the first year to keep the support. The three year plan is a joke which has nothing to do with making us successful in the future but for Geoff Lord and the shareholders to make profit. In three years when MVFC sell their youngsters, can you really see Kristian Sarkies staying with us in 3 years? Chris Tadrosse, one of our youngsters has already got a trial with a low league German club.

JW: Why is his 'long-ball' game-plan so in-effective?

SM: Well its simple the long ball will never work when the forward is one of the shortest players in the team (Archie) and when the long ball did go to a taller player such as Allsopp he never really did much with it. As a coach its his duty to work out that this tactic was not working and that

the fans were not appreciating this style of football.

JW: Who do you believe should replace him?

SM: We believe that we need an Australian coach that has not been given a chance in the new league, coaches such as Nick Theodorakopoulos and Ange Postecoglou should be the front runners for the job. These coaches have proven themselves in the old NSL unlike Ernie Merrick.

JW: Why do you think the MVFC board would terminate his contract with a year to run?

SM: If the MVFC Board is actually looking to succeed they would do what the fans are asking for. Australian Football needs to learn that they can not leave things until the last minute. The 'Sack Farina' campaign was successful and due to his sacking Australia has qualified for the World Cup, We ask the MVFC board to do the same thing.

JW: And finally, how has the website been received?

SM: The website has been very well received by the public. We have received over 100 emails thanking us for the creation of the website. We hope that the website will have its desired effect. Before I go, I would also like to make it clear that we are not the Union or the Blue and White Brigade or any other supporters groups. We are individuals who have had enough of Melbourne Victory struggling due to the coach. We love the club, even if Merrick is not sacked, we the hardcore fans will continue to follow the Victory. Ultimately I fear that new fans to the game will be turned away due to the boring style of football.

JW: Thanks for your time.

SM: No worries.



After indifferent results in the inaugural A-League competition Ernie Merrick is confident he has the backing of the Victory board and faithful supporters

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FA Cup

Showing This Week

4/2/06 11.45pm TBA vs TBA

2.00am TBA vs TBA

4.15am TBA vs TBA

Monday 30 January



VODAFONE CUP

The Big Pre-Off



SOUTH MELBOURNE



Four time National Champions, South Melbourne enter the fast approaching VPL season full of confidence after an impressive 2005.

Following the disbandment of the old National League, South Melbourne entered last season with the goal of avoiding relegation, but they far exceeded those expectations, with only a penalty kick separating them from a place in the VPL grand final.

After such a successful 2005 where 'keeper Dean Anastasiadis picked up the award for goalkeeper of the year, John Anastasiadis and his men will be seeking premiership glory in the upcoming edition of the Vodafone VPL.

Coach John Anastasiadis is a club legend and whilst expecting a successful season is fairly guarded over the team's premiership chances, "Ending up third last year, we tend to obviously want to better that this year, so we are looking at the top 2 positions". Rising star Ramazan Tavsancioglu was less

reserved over the team's ambition. "This year we have included people like Tansel Baser so we are aiming straight for the top."

For Round One against Heidelberg, the club may be without captain Vaughan Coveny and Ramazan Tavsancioglu, whose short-term contract with Melbourne expires at the end of the current A-League season.

However, despite these short-term losses, the club has picked up the key signatures of former Trabzonspor player Tansel Baser and Trinidadian Kevin Nelson, who has played in Germany, England and Canada.

The 27-year-old Baser is a former South Melbourne star who moved to Turkish giants Trabzonspor during the 1998/99 season. The signing of the defensive midfielder will give the line-up greater midfield depth and is a major coup for the Club, while Nelson comes to Australia with an impressive record scoring record in Canada's top flight domestic competition having scored 71 goals in over 100 ap-

pearances.

Anastasiadis said of the Trinidadian, "Kevin Nelson is an out and out striker who is fast, very strong and can score goals".

South although defensively sound, found their weakness to be up front in the season past and will be hoping that the signing of Nelson will have solved the problem. An attacking pairing of Nelson and Coveny may prove to be the most lethal offensive combination in the league.

Anastasiadis has made it clear that he is looking for players to step up for the fast approaching season, singling out improved performances from key defender Blatsis who suffered from injury last season. "Con Blatsis will step up this season I believe, his performances last year were hindered by injury".

However, the off-season saw the exit of Kosta Salapasis from the Albert Park based side and his presence will surely be missed.

During the pre-season, the club has posted indifferent results registering a 2-1 loss against Oakleigh and a 4-2 victory over State League 1 side Springvale White Eagles in recent weeks. The victory over Springvale would have pleased the South "gaffer" thanks to the brace scored by Baser, in a man of the match performance, while Nelson scored once in each encounter, displaying promising signs for the upcoming season.

The South boss, Anastasiadis, has been fairly pleased with the manner which the side has handled themselves, considering the absence of key players Ramazan and Coveny, "We've been doing Ok, we have lost only one game so we have been doing alright up until this stage. However, the real ball starts kicking on February 5th".

South Melbourne has compiled a squad worthy of challenging for the title and will be one of the key contenders for the crown.

By Simon Chiarelli



Kiwi international Vaughn Coveny will soon return to Bob Jane after his stint Newcastle Jets in the A-League will come to a close.

2006 SQUAD LIST

Tansel Baser	From Turkey	Reardo Luka	Ren
Vasilios Natsioulas	Ren	Lucky D'Aurora	From Fawkner
Dean Anastasiadis	Ren	Luca Santilli	From Fawkner
Fernando De Morales	Ren	Luke Antonopoulos	Ren
Evan Karavitis	Ren	Jonathan Ioannou	Ren
Peter Koutsoupias	Ren	Taylan Aksoyoglu	Ren
Con Blatsis	Ren	Adrian Marando	From Fawkner
Scott MacNicol	Ren	Dean Basar	Ren
Sammy De Vito	Ren	Leftheri Arhontogiorgis	Ren
Jonas Salley	From Ivory	Serg Sbeptic	Westgate
Coast Africa		Apostoli Organtidis	Ren
Andrew Bourakis	From Do Hos-	Rama Tavsancioglu	Ren
pital in Portugal		Vaughan Coveny	Ren
Mladen Tasic	Ren	Kevin Nelson	From Canada/
Greg Stanogias	Ren	Trinidad and Tobago	
Marco Pezzino	From Gully		
Dean Pyle	From Morwell	Coach: John Anastasiadis	
Alex Antonopoulos	Ren		
Bojan Misljenovic	From Corio		

Vodafone Cup Round 1

Heidelberg United v South Melbourne
KO 5pm

Olympic Village, West Heidelberg
Sunday 5th February



VODAFONE CUP

The Big Kick-Off


SUNSHINE GEORGIES



There was one main aim for the Georgies in 2005, that was to remain in the top flight of the Victorian Premier League for 2006 after gaining promotion the previous year. However they only did it by the seat of their pants, giving Georgie supporters more that a worry or two.

Looking back at 2005, Chris Taylor had said all along that he was also aiming to be shrewd in his signings and to only bring in players who were committed to the team, and who were affordable in terms of the club's budget. This saw many younger players get their opportunities and quite a few players took this opportunity.

Manny Muscat who became club captain was the shining light of the season and there were many a game where he saved his side or sparked the team in their hour of need.

Down the flanks the Georgies had two of the better wingers in the competition, namely in Eduardo Soares and Trent Waterson. The pace and crossing ability of the two youngsters was a joy to watch most weeks.

Sunhsine struggled last year in a number of aspects and this almost cost them their place in the league. Defensively conceding 47 goals was a very poor performance with only Bentleigh Greens fairing worse. But, it was the way in which these goals were conceded that will have been the most concern for Taylor and co. Goalkeeping was a big porblem and whilst Robert Brian gave his all, he was found wanting in certain areas. This being said the defence was never settled and they gave away far too many silly fouls outside the box and something Sunshine simply did not cope with last season.

Hopefully the signing of Martin John, from Altona Magic between the sticks, will see an improvement in defence. Along with the two new additions from St Albans, and the possible signing of Erdogan from the 'Bergers, Sunshine shoud fair a lot better defensively this time around.

In the midfield Dusko Delic has been training out of his skin. By his own admission he didnt have the best of seasons in 2005, but he's been sharp in pre-season and looks to be eager for a good campaign.

Sunshine must find a way to avoid conceding silly soft goals early on in the match. This often meant the team was chasing the game and unable to play it's natural game.

The Georgies need to set a minimum target of 10-12 wins should it want to ensure Premier League survival.

The acid test will come when it opens the season against the much vaunted firepower of Kingston City at their lovely ground. A competitive outing in this game could be a springboard for a good season. A good start in the first 6-8 weeks of the season is vital for ensuring a successful campaign.

Where will they finish? Realistically I think it will be somewhere from midtable down. But, I am very confident the Georgies can avoid any relegation troubles. The key will be to win the games against the teams that are below or level with them and to scrap hard and claw the odd point or win against the more fancied teams. Chris Taylor has added the experience and knowledge of John Grimaud to his coaching staff and this will bode well for the season to come.

By Reuben Schembri



Left: After consolidating its VPL status last year forward Tom Nacevski will be hoping more of the good times to return to Chaplin Reserve this time around.

Vodafone Cup Round 1

Kingston City
v
Sunshine Georgies
KO 8.15pm

The Grange Reserve,
Kingston

Friday 3rd February

2006 SQUAD LIST

Martin John
Izzy Erdogan
Wes Coles
Sime Kovacevic
Ivan Filipovic
Craig Platt
Trent Nixon

Xfr from Altona Magic
Xfr from Heidelberg
Xfr from Brunswick City
Xfr from St Albans
Xfr from St Albans
Xfr from UK
Xfr from Nth Coburg

Emmanuel Muscat
Dusko Delic
Tony Neceski
Eduardo Soares
Marinos Gasparis
Adam Gauci-Seddon
Colin Azzopardi

Matthew Pace
Fahed Alghazaly
Zoran Pajic
Brett Gilmour
Johnny Cvetanoski
Trent Waterson
Coach: Chris Taylor

Monday 30 January

BOO'S WORLD

A satirical look at the World of Football according to Mark Boric

So much has happened since Goal! Weekly wound up for 2005, I'm not sure where to begin. May as well start at the top.

The very top. The cream, the best in the world, the World Cup. The one Australia qualified for last November 16. In honour of that great night, I urge you all to observe the following tributes to Craig Foster, who provided fantastic commentary on this greatest of events.

Any save you see a goalkeeper make, doesn't have to be from a penalty, to be noted with the claim that "that is the biggest save ever in this country, I'm sorry, but it is". In fact, any statement or claim you make from now on should be suffixed with the words "I'm sorry, but it is". All goals should be greeted with variations of the "Yeeeeesss!!! Johnny!!!! Go on my son!!!!" exclaimed by Fossie as the win-

ning penalty struck the net.

I also think it would be a great idea if the FFV enforced the playing of the Uruguayan national anthem as a rule at all games. Everyone could boo it together in an act of solidarity.

The inaugural A League is drawing to close, for Melbourne Victory at least. After the 5-0 hiding of Sydney it was all downhill. Then it started going underground. Everyone who bet on Kevin Muscat to get a long term suspension got in the queue to collect their money. Some bookies went broke.

Archie Thompson went to Holland after disrespecting the shirt. When I say disrespected the shirt, I don't mean it literally, he didn't soil it or anything. He just said he didn't want to play for the club anymore because they

wouldn't loan him out six months into a three year contract.

Some fans didn't take too kindly to this, and for a brief moment, he was more unpopular with them than Ernie Merrick.



In preparation for the World Cup Archie is possibly now enjoying coffee shops in Holland.

And finally, the new Vodafone V.P.L. season is upon us. Green Gully are the champs. The usual calls that this will be the year Frankston Pines go down are being made.

Surprisingly Fawkner-Whittlesea haven't merged with anyone else. Kingston City have been promoted, but may think it is the E.P.L. and not the V.P.L. given the rumours of the money they have been spending.

A few weeks have been set aside for everyone to go to Germany for the World Cup. Those that couldn't get tickets will just have to make do with a trip to Richmond Eagles, at Kevin Barlett Reserve down near the Rhine, I mean Yarra.

This could be the greatest year ever for football in this country i.e. even better than last year. If someone tries to tell you it is soccer not football, just tell them that "the name of the game, all over the world is football. I'M SORRY, BUT IT IS".

Until next week, don't threaten me with a dead fish.

Victorian Football United – Football 4 Tsunami

For too long we've continued to see other members of the Victorian football community as competitors – on the field, in the papers, in the stands, everywhere.

There are so few occasions where members of this very large community are united for any particular reason. Owing to the power and ability of large groups to make a difference, the community project Football 4 Tsunami was created.

A team of ten football supporters have collaborated with the objective of collecting 10,000 pieces of football apparel and equipment to deliver into the hands of children and adults in Sri Lanka, a country which was severely devastated by the natural disaster of December 2004.

Football 4 Tsunami has joined forces with many large footballing

groups to present an opportunity for football supporters to donate their excessive football gear to make a profound difference to the lives of Sri Lankans, by bringing football back into their lives. Sri Lanka is a football crazy nation, and its residents are still suffering hardship, over a year after the disaster.

For the team of Football 4 Tsunami, a real opportunity presented itself to bring the joy of football back to Sri Lankan communities. Providing these people with football apparel and equipment offers them a chance to rebuild their teams and clubs again, allows kids to have a kick, and restore some normality and happiness in their lives.

We're asking all Victorian to check their clubrooms, cupboards, garages, car boots – anywhere, for unwanted football apparel and equipment (in good condition).

We've started collections across Melbourne now and are proud to have collected over 2,000 thus far. Our new website provides every bit of information you'll need to learn more about the project, where you can drop stuff off, and also

make a difference to the lives of other people, through a sport they love. Donating is simple, free and contributes to our overall objective, making a real and lasting difference in Sri Lanka to those affected by the tsunami.

Consider how effective and powerful one united Victorian football community could be, and join us in making our goals a reality in 2006. Help us grow!

of our partnerships and donation stories. Visit it today at www.football4tsunami.org

Through Football 4 Tsunami, we are creating a genuine opportunity for Victorian football supporters to

By Kaya Babic

86.7 FM

Issue #1



Kiss
kissfm.com.au

Succeroo

a pom's home view



We catch up with the English Premiership just past the half way stage. The table has finally taken shape and we can see which teams will either have their hearts set on Europe, happy in mid table or those who will be battling it out to the end to avoid relegation.

At the top, Chelsea has maintained their dominance all season, having only lost once and drawn twice. 14 points adrift, and now without the distraction of Europe after their shock exit from the Champions League, Manchester United aim to hold second place. But with games in hand, Liverpool's faultless form has recently been overshadowed by the 1 - 0 loss to Man Utd. Liverpool still look to be the second best team in England.

The north London rivals are vying for fourth spot. Tottenham has been strong and reasonably consistent. While the previously dominant Arsenal have already lost 7 games in the league, as well as exiting both the Carling Cup to Wigan and FA cup to Bolton last week. Arsenal will no doubt be desperate to over take Spurs for the final Champions League spot.

The surprise teams, still with a chance on qualifying for Europe, are Wigan and Bolton. The former

should qualify for the UEFA cup by joining Man Utd in the Carling Cup final and the latter despite being severely criticized for their defensive style of play and becoming the bore of the league are grinding out



results.

In mid table Man City have managed very well without Shaun Wright-Phillips. Their emergence is similar Everton in the way they managed a great season

after the loss of Wayne Rooney. As for the fans, it doesn't matter where they finish after beating Man Utd 3-1 at home.

Along with Blackburn, the three London clubs West Ham, Charlton and Fulham have started well and looking good for mid table. Everton has finally gained some pride as well as some much needed points, lifting themselves out of the relegation battle.

Newcastle's revival, halted by Michael Owen's broken foot adds to the team's injury list. The future of present manager Graeme Souness' looks ever increasingly doubtful as they lie in 14th place. Aston Villa is also in desperate need of a revamp, with a major take over on the horizon.

West Brom leads the teams living in the fear of relegation with Middlesbrough at a desperate 17th. Birmingham's 5-0 win over Portsmouth has given some hope, along with their recent signing of Chris Sutton. Harry Rednapp's controversial return as Portsmouth's manager has helped lift the team's spirits, but they still remain 6 points clear of safety.

Meanwhile, routed to the bottom of the table Sunderland's plight seems hopeless as they look certain to break all records with the lowest scoring team ever to play in the Premiership.

By Richard Sucksmith

BAYSIDE LEAGUE VOTES FOR COOL CHANGE

The Bayside Soccer League has voted for a change in name. The name of Bayside Football Association was unanimously voted as choice, as the name of football rightfully takes it place all over Australia.

Bayswater Strikers has become a member of the BFA after applying for membership to the league. Bayswater Strikers has been a constant performer in the Amateur Leagues of Victoria and has now decided to focus their efforts on enjoying their football in the BFA.

Carrum United has also expressed interest in joining the leagues with the idea of efforts in the Sub Juniors and perhaps a senior team as well.

Phillip Island Soccer Club has asked to rejoin the senior ranks of the Bayside Football Association after a year absence last season. The club was voted back into the league without objection at the latest league meeting held at the Sands Hotel.

Phillip Island was actually Trophy-Wise cup champions in 2001 after defeating Mornington B in the final at Frankston Pines. Unfortunately, the potential that the club had at the time, quickly dissipated years following due to in house problems. Hopefully those problems now that is very much in the past. Phillip Island continues to rebuild that potential by proposing to field a team, likely in the division 2.

Cerberus are looking doubtful to take their promotional winning position in the Premier League for 2006 with a believed lack of numbers to field the two teams required in the top division. Cerberus were very strong in the Division 1 in 2005 and looked at one stage going to walk away with the league title. But it was not to be as they fell behind Peninsula in the late stages of the season. Cerberus though did manage to finish second and take the final promotion position. If they failed to make the jump another club will be searched for in taking the vacant place in the Premier League.

Hampton Park United will once again host a pre-season cup over a period of five weeks leading up to the James Verlander Charity Shield and then the start of the Premier League.

Last season had a spectator final when Pines Condors defeated Cuscatlan after a grueling 3 - 3 draw resulting in penalties kicks to decide the outcome in front of a great turn out of spectators.

What is great about this pre season cup is that it gives a chance for clubs who don't have yet use of their own facilities to participate in a friendly match style of tournament without the stress of finding a team to play. Clubs can also use the tournament to try out new players just as you would in a preseason friendly match. More details of this event will be available shortly on the leagues website www.baysideleague.com.

By Steven Gray

Champion Football
VID HORVAT

From Australia to the
World!

Experience training with an
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Youth League winning coach.

Vid Horvat is providing a development
program for girls and boys aged 8 to 18
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Program includes:
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Overall emphasis on technique,
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and vision
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The program won't interfere with your
club team training.

Information about program:
Sat Feb 4th. 9am at Kim Reserve, Altona
City, Melbourne
Email: vidh4@yahoo.com
Mobile: 0403 519 673

Monday 30 January

GOAL! WEEKLY NOW AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING GOOD NEWSAGENTS EVERY MONDAY

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 AIRPORT WEST NEWSAGENCY: MCNAMARA AVENUE AIRPORT WEST
 DUNDAS PLACE NEWSAGENCY: A BRPORT STREET ALBERT PARK
 ALBURY NEWSAGENCY: OLIVE STREET ALBURY NSW
 ALPHINGTON NEWSAGENCY: HEELBERG ROAD ALPHINGTON
 ALTONA NEWSAGENCY: PIER STREET ALTONA
 ALTONA EAST NEWSAGENCY: THE CIRCLE ALTONA EAST
 CENTRAL SQUARE NEWSAGENCY: CENTRAL AVENUE ALTONA MEADOWS
 ALTONA NORTH NEWSAGENCY: BORRACK SQUARE ALTONA NORTH
 HARRINGTON SQUARE NEWSAGENCY: SHOP HARRINGTON SQ. S/C ALTONA WEST
 ASCOT VALE NEWSAGENCY: UNION ROAD ASCOT VALE
 ASHWOOD NEWSAGENCY: WARRIGUL ROAD ASHWOOD
 AVONDALE HEIGHTS NEWS & LOTTO: MILITARY ROAD AVONDALE HEIGHTS
 BAIRNSDALE NEWSAGENCY: BAILEY STREET BAIRNSDALE
 CARLISLE NEWSAGENCY: CARLISLE STREET BALACLAVA
 BRGE MALL NEWSAGENCY: BRGE MALL BALLARAT
 CENTRAL SQUARE NEWSAGENCY: C/ CALEDONIAN GARAGE BALLARAT
 WILLIAMS NEWSAGENCY: STURT STREET BALLARAT
 BALWYN NEWSAGENCY: WHITEHORSE ROAD BALWYN
 YOORALLA NEWSAGENCY: B BELMORE ROAD BALWYN
 BARWON HEADS NEWSAGENCY: HITCHCOCK STREET BARWON HEADS
 BELL PARK NEWSAGENCY: MILTON STREET BELL PARK
 GIBSON'S NEWSAGENCY: MCCRAE STREET BENDIGO
 STRATH VILLAGE NEWSAGENCY: CNR CONDON & EDUARDE STREETS BENDIGO
 BENDIGO DISTRIBUTION SERIES: EVE COURT BENDIGO NORTH
 BENNETTSWOOD NEWSAGENCY: STATION STREET BENNETTSWOOD
 CENTRAL BENTLEIGH NEWSAGENCY: CENTRE ROAD, BENTLEIGH
 PATTERSON NEWSAGENCY: PATTERSON ROAD BENTLEIGH
 CENTREFIELD NEWSAGENCY: CENTRE ROAD BENTLEIGH EAST
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 BLACKBURN NORTH NEWSAGENCY: SPRINGFIELD ROAD BLACKBURN NORTH
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 BORONIA VILLAGE NEWSAGENCY: SHOP A / BORONIA ROAD BORONIA
 NEWSLINE NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: BOX HILL CENTRAL BOX HILL
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 WATTLE PARK NEWSAGENCY: A ELGAR ROAD BOX HILL SOUTH
 HIGHWAY NEWSAGENCY: B HAWTHORN ROAD BRIGHTON EAST
 BARKLY SQUARE LOTTO & NEWS: C/ KENHILL DISTRIBUTION BRUNSWICK
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 BUNDOORA CENTRE NEWSAGENCY: SHOP / PLENTY ROAD BUNDOORA
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 BENNETTSWOOD: BURWOOD HIGHWAY BURWOOD EAST
 BURWOOD NEWSAGENCY: TOORAK ROAD CAMBERWELL
 CAMBERWELL NEWSAGENCY: BURKE ROAD CAMBERWELL
 LYON AUTHORIZED NEWSAGENCY: LYON STREET CARLTON
 PRINCES HILL NEWSAGENCY: LYON STREET CARLTON NORTH
 RATHDOWNE NEWSAGENCY: RATHDOWNE STREET CARLTON NORTH
 CARNEGIE NEWSAGENCY: KOORNANG ROAD CARNEGIE
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 SOUTHLAND NEWSAGENCY: WESTFIELD SHOPPING TOWN CHELTENHAM

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 BATMAN NEWSAGENCY: C/ PASCOE VALE CENTRAL COBURG
 COBURG NEWSAGENCY: SYDNEY ROAD COBURG
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 CORIO VILLAGE NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: CORIO VILLAGE CORIO
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 CRANBOURNE NEWSAGENCY: HIGH ST CRANBOURNE
 THOMPSON PARKWAY NEWSAGENCY: CNR SOUTH GIPPSLAND HIGHWAY & CRANBOURNE NORTH
 CROYDON NORTH NEWSAGENCY: EXETER ROAD CROYDON NORTH
 DOVETON NEWS & LOTTO: C/ SOUTH EASTERN DANDENONG
 LONSDALE NEWSAGENCY: LONSDALE STREET DANDENONG
 LUCKY WINNERS LOTTO: HEMMINGS STREET DANDENONG
 SOUTH EASTERN DISTRIBUTION SERIES: FACTORY: DANDENONG
 DEEPDENE NEWSAGENCY: WHITEHORSE ROAD DEEPDENE
 DEER PARK NEWSAGENCY: BALLARAT ROAD DEER PARK
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 ECHUCA NEWSAGENCY: HARE STREET ECHUCA
 ELSTERNWICK NEWSAGENCY: GLENHUNTLY ROAD ELSTERNWICK
 RIPPONLEA NEWSAGENCY: GLEN EIRA ROAD ELSTERNWICK
 ELWOOD NEWSAGENCY: ORMOND ROAD ELWOOD
 FAIRFIELD NEWSAGENCY: STATION STREET FAIRFIELD
 FAWKNER NEWSAGENCY: BONWICK ST FAWKNER
 MOOMBA PARK NEWSAGENCY: ANDERSON ROAD FAWKNER
 NORTH FITZROY NEWSAGENCY: ST. GEORGES ROAD FITZROY NORTH
 KINGSVILLE NEWSAGENCY: SOMERVILLE ROAD FOOTSCRAY WEST
 BRENTFORD SQUARE NEWSAGENCY: BRENTFORD SQUARE FOREST HILL
 FOREST HILL NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: WESTERN ENTRANCE FOREST HILL
 FOUNTAIN GATE NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: LEVEL FOUNTAIN GATE
 BEACH STREET NEWSAGENCY: BEACH STREET FRANKSTON
 FRANKSTON NEWSAGENCY: KEYS STREET FRANKSTON
 YOUNG STREET NEWSAGENCY: YOUNG STREET FRANKSTON
 BAY CITY NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: BAY CITY PLAZA GEELONG
 GEELONG NEWSAGENCY & LOTTO: MOORABOOL STREET GEELONG
 GEELONG WEST NEWSAGENCY: P.O. BOX: GEELONG WEST
 GLENFIELD NEWSAGENCY: GLENHUNTLY ROAD GLEN HUNTLY
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 GLENHUNTLY NEWSAGENCY: GLENHUNTLY ROAD GLENHUNTLY
 GLENROY NEWSAGENCY: PASCOE VALE ROAD GLENROY
 GREENSBOROUGH NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: GREENSBOROUGH
 GREENVALE NEWSAGENCY: SHOP & CNR MICKLEHAM & GREENVALE GREENVALE
 HADFIELD NEWSAGENCY: WEST STREET HADFIELD
 HAMPTON EAST NEWSAGENCY: BLUFF ROAD HAMPTON EAST
 HAMPTON PARK NEWSAGENCY: PARK SQUARE HAMPTON PARK
 GLENFERRIE NEWSAGENCY: REAR ENTRANCE: BURWOOD ROAD HAWTHORN
 HAWTHORN WEST NEWSAGENCY: CHURCH STREET HAWTHORN
 AUBURN NEWSAGENCY: AUBURN ROAD HAWTHORN EAST
 AUBURN SOUTH NEWSAGENCY: AUBURN ROAD HAWTHORN EAST
 HEELBERG NEWSAGENCY: BURGUNDY STREET HEELBERG
 THE MALL NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: HEELBERG WEST
 HIGGETT NEWSAGENCY: RAILWAY PARADE HIGGETT
 HOPPERS CROSSING NEWSAGENCY: OLD GEELONG ROAD HOPPERS CROSSIN

SQUIRES NEWSAGENCY: FIREBRACE STREET HORSHAM
 HUNTINGDALE NEWSAGENCY: HUNTINGDALE ROAD HUNTINGDALE
 EAST IVANHOE NEWSAGENCY: LOWER HEELBERG ROAD IVANHOE EAST
 KEILOR NEWSAGENCY: CALDER HIGHWAY KEILOR
 KEILOR DOWNS NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: KEILOR DOWNS PLAZA KEILOR DOWNS
 GO LUCKY PTY LTD: MACAULAY ROAD KENSINGTON
 COTHAM NEWSAGENCY: COTHAM RD KEW
 NORTH KEW NEWSAGENCY: WILLSMERE ROAD KEW
 PARKMORE NEWSAGENCY: PARKMORE SHOPPING CENTRE KEYSBOROUGH
 KILMORE NEWSAGENCY: SYDNEY STREET KILMORE

LALOR NEWSAGENCY: STATION STREET LALOR
 LAVERTON NEWSAGENCY: AVIATION ROAD LAVERTON
 LORNE NEWSAGENCY: MOUNTJOY PARADE LORNE

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 LOWER TEMPLESTOWE NEWSAGENCY: MACEDON ROAD LWR TEMPLESTOWE
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 WINTERGLEN NEWSAGENCY: MALVERN LOTTO: GLENFERRIE ROAD MALVERN
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 MELBOURNE CENTRAL NEWSAGENCY: KING STREET MELBOURNE
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 MELTON AUTHORIZED NEWSAGENCY: HIGH STREET MELTON
 MENTONE NEWSAGENCY: COMO PARADE MENTONE
 THRIFT PARK NEWSAGENCY: SHOP / LWR DANDENONG ROAD MENTONE
 KLEMM'S MILDURA NEWSAGENCY: EIGHTH ST MILDURA
 MILL PARK AUTHORIZED NEWSAGENCY: STABLES S/C. CNR CHILDS RD & REDLEAP AV MILL PARK

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 YEATMAN'S NEWSAGENCY: A MOORE STREET MOE
 MOONEE PONDS WEST NEWSAGENCY: MARIBYRNONG ROAD MOONEE PONDS
 PUCKLE STREET NEWSAGENCY: PUCKLE STREET MOONEE PONDS
 MOOROOLBARK NEWSAGENCY: BRICE AVENUE MOOROOLBARK
 MORNINGTON NEWSAGENCY: MAIN STREET MORNINGTON
 SCRIBES NEWSAGENCY: SHOP / MORNINGTON VILLAGE MORNINGTON
 MORWELL NEWSAGENCY: COMMERCIAL ROAD MORWELL
 PINWOOD NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: CENTREWAY SHOPPING CENTRE MOUNT WAVERLEY
 WAVERLEY GARDENS NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: WAVERLEY GARDENS MULGRAVE
 MURRUMBEENA NEWSAGENCY: NEERIM RD MURRUMBEENA
 NARRE WARREN NEWS & TATTS: SHOP: NARRE WARREN
 NEWMARKET NEWSAGENCY: RACECOURSE ROAD NEWMARKET
 NEWPORT NEWSAGENCY: HALL STREET NEWPORT
 NEWPORT WEST NEWSAGENCY: CHALLIS STREET NEWPORT WEST
 NDRIE NEWSAGENCY: KEILOR ROAD NDRIE
 NOBLE PARK NEWSAGENCY: DOUGLAS ST. NOBLE PARK
 VARIETY NEWSAGENCY: HEATHERTON ROAD NOBLE PARK
 NORTH BALWYN NEWSAGENCY: DONCASTER ROAD NORTH BALWYN
 NTH BRIGHTON AUTHORIZED N/AGENCY: BAY STREET NORTH BRIGHTON
 CROXTON NEWSAGENCY: HIGH STREET NORTHCOTE
 NORTHCOTE NEWSAGENCY: HIGH STREET NORTHCOTE
 NORTHCOTE NEWSPLAZA: LOADING BAY NORTHCOTE
 NORTH ESSENDON NEWSAGENCY: MT ALEXANDER ROAD NTH ESSENDON
 MOUNTAINVIEW NEWSAGENCY: A SPRINGFIELD ROAD NUNAWADING
 NUNAWADING NEWSAGENCY: STATION STREET NUNAWADING
 OAK PARK NEWSAGENCY: SNELL GROVE OAK PARK
 OAKLEIGH NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: OAKLEIGH
 PASCOE VALE NEWSAGENCY: C/ OAK PARK NEWSAGENCY PASCOE VALE
 COONANS HILL NEWS/TATTS/POST OFFICE: COONANS ROAD PASCOE VALE SOUTH
 PAPER N POST: C/ PASCOE VALE CENTRAL PASCOE VALE SOUTH
 PORT MELBOURNE NEWSAGENCY: BAY STREET PORT MELBOURNE
 PORTARLINGTON NEWSAGENCY: SHOP / NEWCOMBE STREET PORTARLINGTON
 LEBADITZ NEWSAGENCY: HIGH STREET PRAHRAN
 PRAHRAN MARKET NEWSAGENCY: SHOP A: CATO STREET PRAHRAN
 NORTHLAND NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: SHOPPING CENTRE PRESTON
 PRESTON NEWSAGENCY: HIGH STREET PRESTON
 PRESTON TOWN HALL NEWSAGENCY: HIGH STREET PRESTON
 PRESTON WEST NEWS & LOTTO: BELL STREET PRESTON WEST
 BANFF STREET NEWSAGENCY: BANFF STREET RESERVOIR
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 RESERVOIR NEWSAGENCY: EDWARDS STREET RESERVOIR
 VERNONS NEWSAGENCY: A BRGE ROAD RICHMOND
 ROSANNA NEWSAGENCY: LOWER PLENTY ROAD ROSANNA
 RYE NEWSAGENCY: POINT NEPEAN ROAD RYE
 LORDS NEWSAGENCY: RAYMOND STREET SALE
 SALE NEWSAGENCY: RAYMOND STREET SALE
 BAYSE DISTRIBUTION: FACTORY: SEAFORD
 SEAFORD NEWSAGENCY: NEPEAN HIGHWAY SEAFORD
 SEDDON NEWSAGENCY: CHARLES STREET SEDDON

GOULBOURN VALLEY NEWSAGENCY: WYNDHAM STREET SHEPPARTON
 LOVELL'S NEWSAGENCY: WYNDHAM ST SHEPPARTON
 BORDER NEWSAGENCY: GLENHUNTLY ROAD SOUTH CAULFIELD
 CLARENDON NEWSAGENCY: CLARENDON STREET SOUTH MELBOURNE
 CHAPEL STREET NORTH NEWS & POST: CHAPEL STREET SOUTH YARRA
 SPOTSWOOD NEWSAGENCY: HUDSONS ROAD SPOTSWOOD
 SOUTHVALE NEWSAGENCY: SPRINGVALE ROAD SPRINGVALE SOUTH
 ST ALBANS NEWSAGENCY: MAIN ROAD EAST ST ALBANS
 ST LEONARDS NEWSAGENCY: FORESHORE ROAD ST LEONARDS
 ESPLANADE NEWSAGENCY: FITZROY STREET ST KILDA
 VILLAGE BELLE NEWSAGENCY: ST KILDA
 SOUTH MELBOURNE NEWSAGENCY: CLARENDON ST. STH MELBOURNE
 SUNBURY NEWSAGENCY: BROOK STREET SUNBURY
 SOUTH SUNSHINE NEWSAGENCY: TALLINTYNE ROAD SUNSHINE
 SUNSHINE NEWSAGENCY: HAMPSHIRE ROAD SUNSHINE
 SWAN HILL NEWSAGENCY: CAMPBELL STREET SWAN HILL
 WATERGARDENS NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: TAYLORS LAKES
 TEMPLESTOWE NEWSAGENCY: JAMES STREET TEMPLESTOWE
 NORTHERN HOME DELIVERIES: FACTORY: MACQUARIE DRIVE THOMASTOWN
 NORMANBY NEWSAGENCY: HIGH STREET THORBURY
 ROSSMOYNE NEWSAGENCY: STATION STREET THORBURY
 HAWKSBOURN NEWSAGENCY: MALVERN ROAD TOORAK
 TOORAK VILLAGE NEWSAGENCY: TOORAK ROAD TOORAK
 TORQUAY NEWSAGENCY: GILBERT STREET TORQUAY
 BRAYBROOK NEWSAGENCY: SOUTH ROAD TOTTENHAM
 TRARALGON NEWSAGENCY: FRANKLIN STREET TRARALGON
 GLADSTONE PARK NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: TULLAMARINE
 VERMONT AUTHORIZED NEWSAGENCY: CANTERBURY ROAD VERMONT
 VERMONT SOUTH NEWSAGENCY: BURWOOD HIGHWAY VERMONT SOUTH
 KNOX CITY NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: SHOPPING CENTRE WANTIRNA SOUTH
 HEEPS NEWSAGENCY: TORIA STREET WARRAGUL
 WATSONIA NEWSAGENCY: WATSONIA ROAD WATSONIA
 WERRIBEE NEWSAGENCY: STATION STREET WERRIBEE
 WERRIBEE PLAZA NEWSAGENCY: SHOP T: SHOPPING CENTRE WERRIBEE
 MELVILLE NEWSAGENCY: MORELAND ROAD WEST BRUNSWICK
 NORTH MELBOURNE NEWSAGENCY: ROSSLYN STREET WEST MELBOURNE
 WESTALL NEWSAGENCY: ROSEBANK AVENUE WESTALL
 BRANDON PARK NEWSAGENCY: SHOP: WHEELERS HILL
 WHEELERS HILL NEWSAGENCY: JELLS ROAD WHEELERS HILL
 WHITTLESEA NEWSAGENCY: CHURCH STREET WHITTLESEA
 WILLIAMSTOWN NEWS & LOTTO: DOUGLAS PARADE WILLIAMSTOWN
 WINDSOR NEWSAGENCY: CHAPEL STREET WINDSOR
 BORDER PLAZA NEWSAGENCY: ELGIN STREET WODONGA
 YARRAVILLE NEWSAGENCY: ANDERSON STREET YARRAVILLE

Kat's Corner

With George Katsamboukas



2006 and a new beginning for me.

After spending many years as a Player and a Club Administrator, time for a change.

Let's see how this Journalism gig goes.

I will be focusing mainly on State 2 and the Provisional League Club News; however will also add any snippets from Premier and State League Div 1.

There are two things certain in life, Taxes and coaching changes at the start of each year.

State League Division 2 South East is certainly no exception.

Former Soccerroo and NSL Great Jimmy Rooney has been given Number One job at Knox City.

After being relegated in consecutive years, Knox is keen to bounce back to State 1 in 2007.

Ex Knox Coach, Andy Humble replaces Oscar Crino at Stonnington, who avoided relegation at the 11th hour last year.

Another Ex NSL and Premier League Player, Angie Goutzioulis replaces Aki Alagiozidis at South Springvale.

Dougie Chisolm replaces Frank McGrellis at Doncatser, and I heard a whisper that McGrellis may be moving to Dingley.

Speaking of Doncaster, their Club Rooms were destroyed by fire for the second year running.

John Kennedy, who led Waverley Wanderers to the State 3 Championship in

2005, has been re appointed, as has John Liakopoulos at Clayton.

Greg Magonis remains at Clifton Hill, and their Club President Michael Tyrikos assures me that he will be shortly releasing to me the names of his 2006 signings.

Speaking of Transfers, word around the traps is that many State 2 South East Clubs are digging deep into the coffers to sign new players.

More news to follow as these transfers become official, however, the hype around this League is already starting.

No Cigar for second place though, straight to Promotion Play off they go.

Nerves of steel are required, just ask the Langy Faithful who fell over at the last hurdle on 3 consecutive years.

Former powerhouse of Victorian Soccer, Doveton has been relegated back down to the Provisional League Div 1.

They have Appointed Sam Elmazi as Coach for 2006, I'm sure that his phone will be running overtime to strengthen his squad

Down Riversdale way, Pedro Ramos has been appointed as Coach.

Newly Promoted Berwick Kings have appointed Ex Doveton Coach, Perry Tsiaplas.

Will be interesting to see how many coaches will actually last the entire season at their current clubs, history has shown us that little mercy is shown by

administrators for underperformance.

The new look Hellenic Cup started a few weeks ago.

Players battled with 40 degree plus temperatures and were forced to back up again the next day.

Its has also put a spanner in the works for a few Premier League Clubs preparation who have mainly played teams from lower leagues.

Controversy has raged with teams not appearing to play due to the extreme heat conditions, hopefully a better formula will be found next year for this competition.

On a lighter note, received a call from a Premier League official last week.

He was happy with the way the younger players had bonded with the experienced players of his squad.

Problem was that they bonded too well one night after training, on their way to a player's birthday; they were involved in an intra club Car pile up!

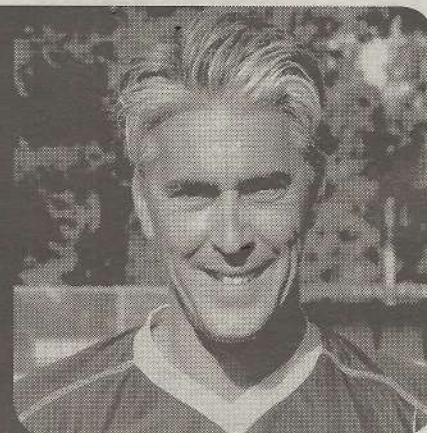
I received the news as the Club Official was telling me about his squad and how tightly knit it was

In all seriousness, fortunately, no one was injured; Lads keep your eyes on the road – Drive carefully.

Wishing all spectators, Players and Administrators a Safe and Happy 2006, Katsa over and out – For Now!

KRNCEVIC'S KRUNCHLINES

Victorian soccer legend Eddie Krncevic represented Australia 35 times and scored 17 goals. He played professionally in Europe for Dinamo Zagreb (Croatia), MSV Duisberg Germany, Anderlecht Belgium Mulho (France), and FC Iege, Aalst and Charleroi in Belgium. Eddie writes for Goal! Weekly every fortnight.



First of all it's good to be back. I hope you all had a fabulous break and I'm really looking forward to a huge year of football in 2006.

A lot has gone on in soccer circles since Goal! Weekly was last out in September last year.

Bad Press

I can't help but read the bad press the coaching staff at Melbourne Victory have been receiving over the past week. I think some of it has been totally unfair when it's been a difficult year for all concerned.

I managed to have a look at the website, "sackernie", and was appalled at

some of the feedback posted by some so called fans. I think the Melbourne Victory and the A-league have been tremendous for football in this state. It's created plenty of awareness and discussion in many corners of Victoria with many new-football people embracing the code. However, some of the criticism aimed at Ernie Merrick and his staff has been way below the belt and much too personal.

I'm all for constructive criticism and positive feed-back, but we need to remember how difficult it is to mould a squad from scratch and understand that these things take time.

Is it really such a surprise that Adelaide United ran away with the Minor

Championship when John Kosmina had a head start on everybody else? I think any coach should be allowed to finish the job and be judged at the end of the season. Sure, we're all disappointed that Melbourne experienced mixed results and isn't going to make the Play-Offs, but there's always next year and the club will decide, after the board does its review, what's best for the club.

VPL

Like everyone I'm really looking forward to this year's newly named Vodafone Cup. I believe soccer fans will be in for a treat and I predict we will witness a competition that will even surpass last year's exciting

campaign. It will be most interesting to see how the new boys of the competition, Richmond and Kingston City, will fare. I take my hat off to both of their presidents, Helmut Kalitzki and Panos Margaritis, who have been involved in football for such a long time and have finally achieved their goal of guiding their respective clubs to the premier competition of Victoria.

My only advice to both of these clubs is to just try and consolidate this season and not set unrealistic targets for their squads. All the best to everybody for the new season and I will no doubt see you around the traps.

Until next time, Eddie.

Monday 30 January

SEASON 2006 PREDICTIONS

Goal! Weekly asked some of its regular contributors to look into the crystal ball and tell us what the future holds for the world of football for 2006...This is what they had to say:

Paul Jefferies	Talia Cerritelli	Simon Chiarelli	George Katsamboukis
<p>1. Who you think will win the VPL Minor Premiership?...South Melbourne.</p> <p>2. Which team will be this year Champions?...South Melbourne</p> <p>3. Which two teams will be relegated?...Pines and Magic</p> <p>4. Which team will be this years surprise packet?.....Preston</p> <p>5. Which team will underachieve?.....Bergers</p> <p>6. How many rounds before we see the first coaching casualty?...Six</p> <p>7. Which player will win the Best & Fairest?.....Curcija</p> <p>8. Which player will win the Top scorer?.....Curcija</p> <p>9. Which team will win the Women's VPL?.....Comets</p> <p>10. How will Australia will fare at the World Cup?...Will play crap in group stages before scraping through to the next round and winning the lot. Hiddink becomes PM soon after</p> <p>11. What will the score be against Japan?.....W 2-1</p> <p>12. Against Brazil?.....L 0-2</p> <p>13. Against Croatia?...1-1</p> <p>14. Who will win this year's World Cup?...Brazil</p> <p>15. Who will win this year's A-league?.....Adelaide</p>	<p>1. Who do you think will win the VPL Minor Premiership?...I think it's going to be a very close competition this year, I wouldn't be surprised to see South Melbourne, Oakleigh, or Green Gully hit the top of the table.</p> <p>2. Which team will be this year Champions?...I think South Melbourne or Oakleigh have a good chance at winning the title.</p> <p>3. Which two teams will be relegated?...Richmond and Frankston may struggle.</p> <p>4. Which team will be this years surprise packet?...Kingston City</p> <p>5. Which team will underachieve?...Essendon have lost a lot of their key players - hopefully the young brigade can step up or they may be in trouble.</p> <p>6. How many rounds before we see the first coaching casualty?... Round five has a jinx over it - it was at that stage both last season and the season before that the VPL suffered its first coaching casualties.</p> <p>7. Which player will win the Best & Fairest?...Roddy Vargas.</p> <p>8. Which player will win the Top scorer?...Curcija's name has become synonymous with Golden Boot glory.</p> <p>9. Which team will win the Women's VPL?...Cranbourne Comets have been the runner up for the past three seasons so hopefully this is their year.</p> <p>10. How will Australia fare at the World Cup?...The Socceroos have waited 32 years for this opportunity so I don't think they are prepared to just lay down and make a quiet exit after coming this far. That being said, they have drawn a tough</p> <p>11. What will the score be against Japan?.....1-0</p> <p>12. Against Brazil?.....L 0-2</p> <p>13. Against Croatia?...1-1</p> <p>14. Who will win this year's World Cup?...Brazil</p> <p>15. Who will win this year's A-league?..... Adelaide</p>	<p>1. Who you think will win the VPL Minor Premiership?...Oakleigh</p> <p>2. Which team will be this year Champions?...South Melbourne</p> <p>3. Which two teams will be relegated?...Essendon and Sunshine</p> <p>4. Which team will be this years surprise packet?...Kingston</p> <p>5. Which team will underachieve?... Heidelberg</p> <p>6. How many rounds before we see the first coaching casualty?...12</p> <p>7. Which player will win the Best & Fairest?...Tansel Baser</p> <p>8. Which player will win the Top scorer?...Kevin Nelson</p> <p>9. Which team will win the Women's VPL?...Cranbourne</p> <p>10. How will Australia will fare at the World Cup?...Will qualify for second round, with a last gasp equaliser against Croatia before bowing out against Italy in a gallant effort</p> <p>11. What will be the score be against Japan?...W 2-0</p> <p>12. Against Brazil?.....L 0-2</p> <p>13. Against Croatia?...1-1</p> <p>14. Who will win this year's World Cup-Brazil- How can a side containing Adriano, Ronaldo, Robinho, Ronaldinho, Juninho and Kaka possibly lose?</p> <p>15. Who will win this year's A-league?..... Central Coast</p>	<p>1. Who you think will win the VPL Minor Premiership?...Green Gully</p> <p>2. Which team will be this year's VPL Champions?...One of six, take your pick!</p> <p>3. Which two teams will be relegated?...Sunshine and Frankston Pines.</p> <p>4. Which team will be this year's surprise packet?...Bulleen.</p> <p>5. Which team will underachieve?... Kingston City</p> <p>6. How many rounds before we see the first coaching casualty?...4</p> <p>7. Which player will win the VPL Best & Fairest?...Joey DiOrio</p> <p>8. Which player will win the VPL Top scorer?...Esala Masi</p> <p>9. Which team will win the Women's VPL?...Cranbourne</p> <p>10. How will Australia will fare at the World Cup? Will scrape through to next round before being knocked out in gallant effort.</p> <p>11. What will the score be against Japan?...W 2-1</p> <p>12. Against Brazil?...L 3-0</p> <p>13. Against Croatia?...D 1-1</p> <p>14. Who will win this year's World Cup?...Brazil</p> <p>15. Who will win this year's A-league?...Adelaide</p>



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SEASON 2006 PREDICTIONS

Goal! Weekly asked some of its regular contributors to look into the crystal ball and tell us what the future holds for the world of football for 2006...This is what they had to say:

James Taylor	Channel 31's Simon McClusky	George Stogiannou	Brian Flaherty
1. Who do you think will win the VPL Minor Premiership?.....Green Gully	1. Who do you think will win the VPL Minor Premiership?....Green Gully	1. Who do you think will win the VPL Minor Premiership?.....Lions	1. Who do you think will win the VPL Minor Premiership?....Green Gully
2. Which team will be this year Champions?.....Sth Melbourne	2. Which team will be this year Champions?...South Melbourne.....	2. Which team will be this year Champions?.....Pines	2. Which team will be this year Champions?...Oakleigh Cannons
3. Which two teams will be relegated?.....Richmond, Bulleen	3. Which two teams will be relegated?...Richmond City and Frankston Pines	3. Which two teams will be relegated?.....Green Gully and Heidelberg	3. Which two teams will be relegated?...Essendon Royals and Frankston Pines
4. Which team will be this years surprise packet?.....Kingston City	4. Which team will be this years surprise packet?...Melbourne Knights	4. Which team will be this years surprise packet?..... Richmond	4. Which team will be this years surprise packet?...Richmond
5. Which team will underachieve.....Heidelberg United	5. Which team will underachieve?... Heidelberg	5. Which team will underachieve?..... Green Gully	5. Which team will underachieve?... Bulleen
6. How many rounds before we see the first coaching casualty?.....12	6. How many rounds before we see the first coaching casualty?.....12.	6. How many rounds before we see the first coaching casualty?.....Three	6. How many rounds before we see the first coaching casualty?...Eight
7. Which player will win the Best & Fairest?.....Kevin Nelson	7. Which player will win the Best & Fairest?...Kosta Salapasis	7. Which player will win the Best & Fairest?.....D. Matkovic	7. Which player will win the Best & Fairest?...Serkan Oksuk
8. Which player will win the Top scorer?.....Michael Curcija	8. Which player will win the Top scorer?...Michael Curcija.....	8. Which player will win the Top scorer?.....Daniel Allsop	8. Which player will win the Top scorer?...Serkan Oksuk
9. Which team will win the Women's VPL?.....Cranbourne Comets	9. Which team will win the Women's VPL?...Cranbourne or Box Hill on penalties - can't split the two!	9. Which team will win the Women's VPL?..... Box Hill	9. Which team will win the Women's VPL?...Box Hill
10. How will Australia will fare at the World Cup ?Will finish second in the group behind Brazil after defeating Japan and Croatia, but will lose in the next stage.	10. How will Australia will fare at the World Cup ?... First Round. We'll defeat Japan, but lose to Croatia and Brazil	10. How will Australia will fare at the World Cup ?... Australia will scrape into the next round before losing to Italy in a penalty shootout.	10. How will Australia will fare at the World Cup ? ...Honorable third in Qualifying Group...(done on goal difference).....
11. What will the score be against Japan?.....2-0	11. What will the score be against Japan?...W 2-1	11. What will the score be against Japan?..... 1-0 to Australia	11. What will the score be against Japan?. 1-1
12. Against Brazil?.....0-3	12. Against Brazil?...L 3-1	12. Against Brazil?.....2-0 to Brazil	12. Against Brazil?...loss 0-3
13. Against Croatia?.....1-0	13. Against Croatia?...L 2-0	13. Against Croatia?.....2-2	13. Against Croatia?. 2-2
14. Who will win this year's World Cup?.....Brazil	14. Who will win this year's World Cup?...Holland	14. Who will win this year's World Cup?..... Germany	14. Who will win this year's World Cup?...Brasil
15. Who will win this year's A-league?.....Adelaide United	15. Who will win this year's A-league?...Adelaide United	15. Who will win this year's A-league?..... Sydney FC	15. Who will win this year's A-league?...Adelaide

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Monday 30 January

SEASON 2006 PREDICTIONS

Goal! Weekly asked some of its regular contributors to look into the crystal ball and tell us what the future holds for the world of football for 2006...This is what they had to say:

Mark "Boo" Boric

1. Who do you think will win the VPL Minor Premiership?.....Green Gully
2. Which team will be this year Champions?.....Preston Lions
3. Which two teams will be relegated?...Sunshine, Frankston Pines
4. Which team will be this years surprise packet?...Melbourne Knights
5. Which team will underachieve?.....Heidelberg United
6. How many rounds before we see the first coaching casualty?..... 8
7. Which player will win the Best & Fairest?..... Andy Vargas
8. Which player will win the Top scorer?.....Juan Nilo
9. Which team will win the Women's VPL?.....Box Hill Inter
10. How will Australia will fare at the World Cup ?.... Will either just miss out or scrape through the group stage, eliminated next round if we scrape through.
11. What will the score be against Japan?..... 2-0
12. Against Brazil?..... 0-2
13. Against Croatia?..... 1-1
14. Who will win this year's World Cup?..... Brazil
15. Who will win this year's A-league?..... Adelaide United

Reuben Schembri

1. Who you think will win the VPL Minor Premiership?...Green Gully
2. Which team will be this year Champions?.....Green Gully
3. Which two teams will be relegated?...Frankston & Bulleen
4. Which team will be this years surprise packet?...Kingston City
5. Which team will underachieve?.....Bulleen
6. How many rounds before we see the first coaching casualty?.....7
7. Which player will win the Best & Fairest?...Bill Damianos
8. Which player will win the Top scorer?...Michael Curcija
9. Which team will win the Women's VPL?.....Keilor Park
10. How will Australia will fare at the World Cup ?...Will beat Japan 2-1 draw with the croats 2-2 and cause the biggest bolover in World Cup history and beat Brazil 1-0 going through to the next round on 7 points, will win the round of 16 in extra time 3-2 and will go to penalties in the quarters.
11. What will the score be against Japan?.....2-1 with goals by Mark Viduka and Jason Culina
12. Against Brazil?.....1-0 win with goal by Harry Kewell
13. Against Croatia?.....2-2 with goals from Bresciano and Archie Thompson as second half sub.
14. Who will win this year's World Cup?...Holland
15. Who will win this year's A-league?.....Adelaide to choke in the final and lose 1-0 to Sydney FC.

Bruno Zovko

1. Who do you think will win the VPL Minor Premiership – Green Gully
2. Which team will be this year Champions - Sth. Melbourne v Preston ; the winner I don't know?
3. Which two teams will be relegated – Frankston & Essendon
4. Which team will be this years surprise packet – Melbourne Knights
5. Which team will underachieve – Kingston City
6. How many rounds before we see the first coaching casualty - Four
7. Which player will win the Best & Fairest- Dragi Nasteovski (Green Gully)
8. Which player will win the Top scorer? – Joe Spitteri
9. Which team will win the Women's VPL – Cranbourne Comets
10. How will Australia will fare at the World Cup ?- Just fail to pass on to the next round.
- Score against Japan – 3-2 win
- Come back from 2-0 down. Viduka scores a hat-trick in the 2nd half. Bob Hawke calls for another public Holiday. Craig Foster is rushed to Hospital for concussion after banging his head on the microphone after Viduka scores the winner.
- And Les Murray finally calls himself Laszlo on T.V.
- Score against Brazil – 7-5
- Australia's mainstream press say's "We were robbed against Brazil."
- Naomi Robson's "Today Tonight" say " We were robbed because the Brazilian's come from a 3rd world economy where hyper and super inflation is prevalent, and the only way for Brazilian male's to break the poverty trap is to play football with no shoes on the streets of Rio and its other city's. Thus the Brazilian team has harnessed its socio-economic plight as its secret weapon against Australia, which is very unAustralian, as no child will live in poverty in Australia by the year 2000.
- Score against Croatia- 2- 1 loss
- Aussie born Joe Simunic scores Croatia's winner in injury time.
- The media call for a Parliamentary Inquiry on "Why an AIS player is playing for the opposition."
- The investigation concludes that the state of the game in this country two years ago and beyond was run like a 3rd world Maoist/Leninist country punctuated with enough shady characters to make Swiss Cheese look whole.
- The government recommends "Aussie Joe with the Order of Australia" because it deemed that the game in Australia, "was run in a very unAustralian type manner", and "that it was very Australian for any descent player for Australia to play for another country which was run in a professional manner."
- Naomi Robson's "Today Tonight" to run a feature on Aussie Joe Siminic to pay back the AIS.
- But the only thing that Joe is forced to be paid back is alimony money to Naomi Robson nine months later, as both Aussie Joe and Naomi become proud parents to their son Ante William Robson-Simunic.
- In the end, Australia's ageing defense will prove to be its Achilles heel, and SBS wheel out Rale Rasic on why Australia failed to make the second round. But all we find out is that Rale first name is Zvonimir, and that Rale Rasic has been hyphenated from his surname, Ralerasic.
11. Who will win this year's World Cup- Brazil
12. Which team will win the A-league? – Sydney FC



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Round 17

23 Jun 06 615/815PM	Kingston	v	Oakleigh	The Grange Reserve
25 Jun 06 100/300PM	Knights	v	SGX	Knights Stadium
25 Jun 06 100/300PM	Preston	v	SMFC	BT Connor Reserve
25 Jun 06 100/300PM	Fawkner	v	Bulleen	CB Smith Reserve
25 Jun 06 300/500PM	Gully	v	Richmond	Gully Reserve
25 Jun 06 400/600PM	Heidelberg	v	Frankston	Olympic Village
26 Jun 06 615/815PM	Essendon	v	Altona	Veneto Social Club

Round 18

30 Jun 06 615/815PM	Oakleigh	v	Preston	Jack Edwards Reserve
30 Jun 06 630/830PM	Richmond	v	SGX	Kevin Bartlett Reserve
1 Jul 06 100/300PM	Frankston	v	Fawkner	Monterey Reserve
1 Jul 06 530/730PM	Altona	v	Knights	Paisley Park Reserve
2 Jul 06 1245/300PM	SMFC	v	Essendon	Bob Jane Stadium
2 Jul 06 300/500PM	Gully	v	Heidelberg	Gully Reserve
3 Jul 06 615/815PM	Bulleen	v	Kingston	Veneto Social Club

Round 19

7 Jul 06 615/815PM	Kingston	v	Frankston	The Grange Reserve
9 Jul 06 100/300PM	SGX	v	Altona	Chaplin Reserve
9 Jul 06 100/300PM	Knights	v	SMFC	Knights Stadium
9 Jul 06 100/300PM	Preston	v	Bulleen	BT Connor Reserve
9 Jul 06 400/600PM	Heidelberg	v	Richmond	Olympic Village
10 Jul 06 615/815PM	Essendon	v	Oakleigh	Veneto Social Club
10 Jul 06 615/815PM	Fawkner	v	Gully	Epping Stadium

Round 20

15 Jul 06 100/300PM	Frankston	v	Preston	Monterey Reserve
15 Jul 06 530/730PM	Altona	v	Richmond	Paisley Park Reserve
16 Jul 06 100/300PM	Oakleigh	v	Knights	Jack Edwards Reserve
16 Jul 06 1245/300PM	SMFC	v	SGX	Bob Jane Stadium
16 Jul 06 300/500PM	Gully	v	Kingston	Gully Reserve
16 Jul 06 400/600PM	Heidelberg	v	Fawkner	Olympic Village
17 Jul 06 615/815PM	Bulleen	v	Essendon	Veneto Social Club

Round 21

21 Jul 06 615/815PM	Kingston	v	Heidelberg	The Grange Reserve
23 Jul 06 1245/300PM	SMFC	v	Altona	Bob Jane Stadium
23 Jul 06 100/300PM	SGX	v	Oakleigh	Chaplin Reserve
23 Jul 06 100/300PM	Knights	v	Bulleen	Knights Stadium
23 Jul 06 100/300PM	Preston	v	Gully	BT Connor Reserve
24 Jul 06 615/815PM	Fawkner	v	Richmond	Epping Stadium
24 Jul 06 615/815PM	Essendon	v	Frankston	Veneto Social Club

Round 22

28 Jul 06 630/830PM	Richmond	v	SMFC	Kevin Bartlett Reserve
29 Jul 06 100/300PM	Frankston	v	Knights	Monterey Reserve
30 Jul 06 100/300PM	Oakleigh	v	Altona	Jack Edwards Reserve
30 Jul 06 300/500PM	Gully	v	Essendon	Gully Reserve
30 Jul 06 400/600PM	Heidelberg	v	Preston	Olympic Village
31 Jul 06 615/815PM	Fawkner	v	Kingston	Epping Stadium
31 Jul 06 615/815PM	Bulleen	v	SGX	Veneto Social Club

Round 23

4 Aug 06 615/815PM	Kingston	v	Richmond	The Grange Reserve
5 Aug 06 530/730PM	Altona	v	Bulleen	Paisley Park Reserve
6 Aug 06 1245/300PM	SMFC	v	Oakleigh	Bob Jane Stadium
6 Aug 06 100/300PM	SGX	v	Frankston	Chaplin Reserve
6 Aug 06 100/300PM	Knights	v	Gully	Knights Stadium
6 Aug 06 100/300PM	Preston	v	Fawkner	BT Connor Reserve
7 Aug 06 615/815PM	Essendon	v	Heidelberg	Veneto Social Club

Round 24

11 Aug 06 615/815PM	Kingston	v	Preston	The Grange Reserve
11 Aug 06 630/830PM	Richmond	v	Oakleigh	Kevin Bartlett Reserve
12 Aug 06 100/300PM	Frankston	v	Altona	Monterey Reserve
13 Aug 06 100/300PM	Fawkner	v	Essendon	CB Smith Reserve
13 Aug 06 300/500PM	Gully	v	SGX	Gully Reserve
13 Aug 06 400/600PM	Heidelberg	v	Knights	Olympic Village
14 Aug 06 615/815PM	Bulleen	v	SMFC	Veneto Social Club

Round 25

18 Aug 06 615/815PM	Oakleigh	v	Bulleen	Jack Edwards Reserve
19 Aug 06 530/730PM	Altona	v	Gully	Paisley Park Reserve
20 Aug 06 100/300PM	Preston	v	Richmond	BT Connor Reserve
20 Aug 06 1245/300PM	SMFC	v	Frankston	Bob Jane Stadium
20 Aug 06 100/300PM	SGX	v	Heidelberg	Chaplin Reserve
20 Aug 06 100/300PM	Knights	v	Fawkner	Knights Stadium
21 Aug 06 615/815PM	Essendon	v	Kingston	Veneto Social Club

Round 26

27 Aug 06 100/300PM	Preston	v	Essendon	BT Connor Reserve
27 Aug 06 100/300PM	Kingston	v	Knights	The Grange Reserve
27 Aug 06 100/300PM	Fawkner	v	SGX	Epping Stadium
27 Aug 06 100/300PM	Heidelberg	v	Altona	Olympic Village
27 Aug 06 100/300PM	Gully	v	SMFC	Gully Reserve
27 Aug 06 100/300PM	Frankston	v	Oakleigh	Monterey Reserve
27 Aug 06 100/300PM	Richmond	v	Bulleen	Kevin Bartlett Reserve

VODAFONE FINALS SERIES

Week 1 - 03 Sep 06 - Qualifying and Elimination Finals

Week 2 - 10 Sep 06 - Semi Finals

Week 3 - 17 Sep 06 - Preliminary Final

Week 4 - 24 Sep 06 - Grand Final

KEY

Altona: Altona Magic SC
Bulleen: Bulleen Zebras SC
Essendon: Essendon Royals SC
Fawkner: Fawkner/Whittlesea Blues SC
Gully: Green Gully Cavaliers SC
Heidelberg: Heidelberg United Warriors SC
Kingston: Kingston City SC
Knights: Melbourne Knights SC
Oakleigh: Oakleigh Cannons SC
Preston: Preston Lions SC
Richmond: Richmond SC
SGX: Sunshine George Cross
SMFC: South Melbourne FC

MATCH GROUNDS

The Grange Reserve (Oakleigh): MEL 79:F8
Veneto Social Club (Bulleen): MEL 32:D9
Olympic Village (Heidelberg): MEL 19:D11
Green Gully Reserve: MEL 14:E8
Monterey Reserve (Frankston): MEL 99:K8
BT Connor Reserve (Preston): MEL 18:B2
Bob Jane Stadium (SMFC): MEL 2K:F6
Knights Stadium: MEL 27:A6
Epping Stadium (Fawkner): MEL 182:C4
Chaplin Reserve (SGX): MEL 26:G12
Paisley Park (Altona): MEL 55:C5

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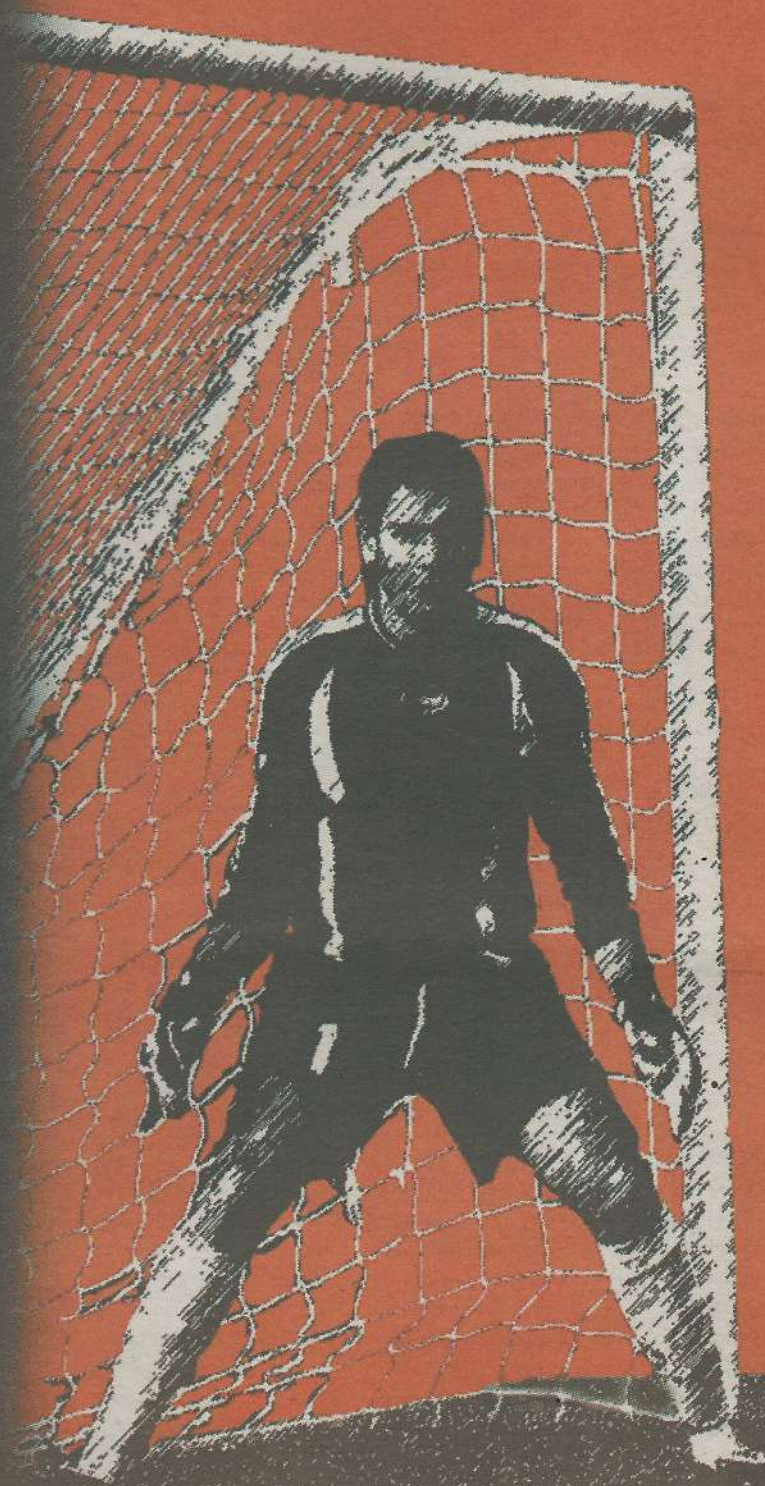
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